

THE TIMES Monday

Left wing... as the Labour Party gathers to choose a new leader and to attempt to rise from the ashes of the General Election, a Times team led by our Political Editor, Julian Haviland, will be in Brighton to provide the most informative coverage each day

...right wing
Stuart Jones and Peter Ball assess the impact of live league football on television

Iron...
Modern Times finds that steam gets in your eyes



...horses
The Times Guide to the Horse of the Year Show
Eastward ho
A special report looks at the thaw in Anglo-Malaysian relations

Weinberger warned of 'new Iran'

Pakistan's angry opposition politicians warned the US of another Iran if they continued supporting President Zia ul-Haq. Arriving in Islamabad last night, Mr Casper Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, said the two countries had a "model" relationship. Page 4

Industry split

Sharp differences have emerged in the responses of industrialists' organizations to government proposals for union reform, to be presented to Parliament this month. Page 2

Cheap holidays

The package holiday price war intensified as Intasun offered 6 per cent cuts for part of next year, undercutting Thomson and Horizon. Page 3

Manila tear gas

The Philippines police used tear gas against office workers in Manila while President Marcos warned businessmen against sabotaging the economy. Page 6

Ulster rebuff

The Northern Ireland Assembly's security committee has refused to discuss the Maze without Mr Nicholas Scott, the junior minister. Page 2

Pay record

Directors of Smith Brothers, the publicly-quoted stockbroker, received record earnings, including £770,000 in bonuses, as the group's pretax profits reached £3.4m. Page 11

Iran warning

The Iranian Foreign Minister said at the UN that arms-carrying ships would no longer be allowed to pass through the Straits of Hormuz. Page 6

Tough ties

All the British clubs left in the European competition face tough ties in the second round. Liverpool, the former European champions, face Athletic Bilbao of Spain. Page 18

Family money

A National Savings one-year deposit bond, with interest rolled up and added to its capital value, has unappealing restrictions and looks unlikely to attract investors. Page 14

Britain lead

Britain took a 2-0 lead in their Davis Cup tie against Chile when John Lloyd and Christopher Mottram won their single matches. Page 18

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Hint of new Labour conflict on eve of leadership poll

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The potential for future conflict between Labour's new leadership team, to be elected tomorrow, and the party's left wing became apparent last night. The left said that policies developed over many years could not be cast aside, while Mr Roy Hattersley, who is expected to be deputy leader, made plain his view that key parts of the programme on which Labour fought the election had been abandoned.

The likelihood of renewed tension was increased when the left said that Mr Hattersley was as a deputy leader "not credible".

With the original dream ticket of Mr Neil Kinnock, as leader, and Mr Hattersley as his deputy looking likely to be realized at the Brighton conference, Mr Hattersley said last night that the leadership campaign had helped towards the recreation of a party which could and would win the next election.

On a day when it became clear that he had replaced Mr Denis Healey as the left's main adversary, Mr Hattersley showed his determination to take it on when he said that whatever position he held in the party after tomorrow's election, he would refuse to stay silent "if we behave in a way which makes the slide towards a third defeat inevitable".

Mr Hattersley's remarks, delivered in Birmingham, sounded in places remarkably like a victory speech. He said that in his campaign he had spoken for Labour voters. His duty as leader, if elected, and duty to the leader, if he was not, was to speak up for policies that made the new leader the next prime minister.

He stated firmly: "Whatever happens on Sunday night, we will not fight the next election as the party which is committed to withdrawal from Europe, which offers no practical hope to the lower paid and which espouses a disarmament policy that enables our enemies to argue that we have no policy at all for the defence of Britain".

His speech was the clearest signal, despite Mr Kinnock's declaration that he will be "bass" in the new leadership team, of his intention to speak out and continue what he called "the fight to rescue Labour".

Earlier yesterday the *Tribune* newspaper, the voice of Labour's far left, attacked Mr Hattersley as "simply not a credible deputy leader... he represents a strand of opinion in the party that is diametrically opposed to Labour policy in many key issues".

The left has been incensed by Mr Hattersley's assertion that some of their cherished policies, notably on disarmament, must go.

Tribune stated yesterday that Labour's conference delegates should tell Mr Hattersley and his friends that Labour's commitment to remove nuclear weapons from British soil was non-negotiable.

It said that no one should imagine that policies developed over many years, to which the majority of members and trade unionists were committed, could simply be cast aside by the new leadership. Conference decided policy. The job of leaders was to explain and implement.

The journal also made clear that Mr Eric Heffer was its first choice as leader.

Mr Wedgwood Benn said yesterday that it would be wrong to assume that the policies of successful leadership candidates were automatically party policy. He said in the *Labour Herald* that the "programme on which we fought the election... will be proved right by events".

It is vital that conference does not drop our programme, it is true that the manifesto on which we fought the election, drawn from our programme, has been overtaken by our defeat. But the programme itself is bigger in all ways than the manifesto and, as such, remains valid.

Conference previews page 2

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Stepping down: Mr Michael Foot, whose successor as Labour leader will be elected on Sunday, walking with his dog in London yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

NCB offers 5.2% and demands faster closures

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board yesterday offered union leaders of 190,000 miners a basic rate increase of 5.2 per cent and told them that it was its "last word" in the present wage bargaining round.

Mr James Cowan, deputy chairman of the board, also gave notice that the management will be seeking co-operation from the unions for a more rapid rundown of uneconomical pits early in the new year. "Over-production of high-cost coal must be eliminated", he said.

An unusually subdued Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), detected the hand of the Government in the board's "first and final offer", which he calculates is worth less than 3 per cent in take-home pay.

The NUM's national executive will meet in emergency session this morning in Brighton to plan its next move. Miners' leaders are also being asked to make official a second strike, at Westoe colliery, South Shields.

The board's offer would give increases from November 1 ranging from £4.90 a week for surface workers to £6.80 at the coalface, pushing minimum rates up to £99 a week on the surface and £137.10 for the top-paid faceworker. Weekly earnings now range from £148.27 at the pit top to £178.93 for face and development workers.

When the two sides met in London yesterday Mr Cowan argued: "In past years I have been able to discuss your claim with you on the basis of a sum of money which the board could make available and still break even. This approach is no longer possible."

It was clear that the industry would sustain a heavy loss this financial year, he added. "The main problem is that we are simply producing much more than we can sell and the over-production is, in the main, from heavily losing collieries".

The overall price rise later this autumn would be only about 2.5 per cent, on reduced sales by volume. "We cannot expect to sell more coal. The market simply does not exist."

Mr Cowan insisted that management and the unions had to reach an understanding on how to deal with the problem of over-capacity. "I hope we will meet together early in the new year to examine ways of dealing with the situation", he said.

Mr Scargill dismissed the proposal, saying afterwards: "What they want us to do is provide a rope for our own execution."

That comment drew a rebuke from Mr Cowan, who accused the miners' president of "deliberate misrepresentation" of the board's position. "We want a dialogue with all the unions, which would be helpful to all their members", he said.

Of the charge that the Prime Minister had intervened in the pay talks, he said: "Mr Scargill has a vivid imagination. There has been no contact with Mrs Thatcher or the Government."

The NUM executive will meet today against a background of coal board confidence that the pay offer will prove acceptable to the men, while many of those involved in pit closures are voting with their feet to take redundancy money and leave the industry.

Pilots suspend boycott of Moscow a month early

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Flights to and from Moscow will start again next week after a surprising change of mind by airline pilots.

The International Federation of Airline Pilots Association, which led a 60-day ban when Soviet jet fighters shot down a South Korean airliner with a loss of 269 lives on September 1, has called it off from next Monday.

The news will disappoint Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her ministers, who were dismayed by the earlier failure of governments to agree on tougher sanctions against the Russians.

But Mr Robert Tweed, president of IALPA, whose six-man committee has been meeting in Montreal during the assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization,

said that they now wanted to help lower the tension so that ICAO could work out a solution to problems raised by the disaster. It seems likely that pressure by the ICAO has prompted the sudden change by the pilots.

After the British Airline Pilots Association said that it would abide by the new recommendation, British Airways announced the resumption of its flights to Moscow next Thursday.

Aeroflot's hopes of flying to Heathrow Airport on Monday, however, seem to depend on whether baggage handlers and refuelling workers lift their own ban.

The official two-week suspension of Aeroflot flights imposed by governments ended on Wednesday night.

IALPA emphasized that the boycott had only been suspended, and could be resumed if ICAO delegates failed to agree on international procedures to prevent such an incident recurring.

NEW YORK: A previously undisclosed radio message in which a Soviet operator said, "We're really in trouble now. The pilot says he shot down an airliner", suggests that the pilot who shot down the jet knew he was firing at an airliner, CBS news quoted US Administration sources as saying. However, others said the message sent three hours after the incident, was not conclusive (AP reports).

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Jobs to go at Crown Agents

The Crown Agents are planning to shed at least a quarter of their 1,200 permanent staff in an attempt to survive a financial crisis which is threatening their future.

Civil Service unions have been told that 300 to 400 jobs must go after the sudden loss in July of the agents' long-standing role as investment managers to the Sultan of Brunei.

The agents, who were established 150 years ago, provide a range of procurement, engineering and contractual services for foreign governments. Managing the Sultan of Brunei's £3,000m investment portfolio was their single most profitable activity.

Last year they had a deficit after tax and interest payments of £640,000.

Business News, page 11

Conran in Richard Shops deal

By Jonathan Clare

Sir Terence Conran, the man who built up Habitat and last year took over Mothercare, yesterday became the driving force behind Richard Shops, the chain of 217 high street women's wear retailers.

Sir Terence stepped in at the last minute to save a management buyout of the chain from Hanson Trust, the industrial conglomerate. His move came after Big City institutions failed to provide the expected cash to finance the buyout.

Sir Terence put up more than £30m, the amount the City was to have invested through a subsidiary of his Habitat Mothercare company.

The cash will be used as part of a complicated package to buy both Richard Shops and the John Collier men's wear chain from Hanson for £104m as a single deal.

Sir Terence's plans for Richard shops were unclear last night. Comment, page 11

Last-ditch effort by Vauxhall

By David Felton

Vauxhall Motors will this morning attempt to avert the all-out strike by almost 14,000 manual workers which is due to start on Monday morning.

The three unions have been called to emergency talks when the company will try to reopen negotiations on the length of the agreement period covered by their 7.75 per cent offer which has been the main sticking point between the two sides.

It is likely that Vauxhall will seek to extend the period to 18 months, while the unions will be pressing for a 12-month deal running to their traditional September settlement date.

Company executives will be heartened by the results of a secret ballot among engineering union members at the Dunstable factory in Bedfordshire which showed a narrow majority in favour of accepting the existing offer. About 900 workers were involved and the company will probably open the factory gates to them on Monday morning if the strike goes ahead.

News of the eleventh hour talks came as union leaders representing Ford's 44,500 manual workers submitted a claim for increases of between 15 and 16 per cent which would be worth more than an extra £20 a week. Ford will answer the claim on October 28.

This morning's emergency meeting of the Vauxhall joint negotiating committee will be held in a hotel near Coventry.

Members of the electricians' union yesterday voted to support the strike but linked their decision with a call for early negotiations between unions and management. If today's talks fail, a meeting involving national union officials has already been arranged for next Thursday.

Shamir fails to form a national government

From Edward Mortimer, Jerusalem

An attempt to form a broad-based "National Unity Government" in Israel ended in failure yesterday when talks between the ruling Likud and Opposition Labour Party broke down.

As a result, the outgoing Government is expected to remain in office with its present distribution of portfolios. Mr Yitzhak Shamir will retain the Foreign Ministry, while replacing Mr Menachem Begin.

Mr Begin, who announced his resignation a month ago, has remained at home ever since, seeing only his children and one close personal aid. It is now generally assumed that his mental condition renders him incapable of conducting business, but officially he remains Prime Minister until Mr Shamir's Government obtains a vote of confidence in the Knesset (Parliament). If all goes smoothly that could happen next week.

Mr Shamir has called a meeting of his coalition partners for tomorrow. Sixty-two Members of Parliament - an overall majority of four - have already committed themselves to support his Government.

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Ministers hope that most of the reductions will involve administrative and ancillary staff, but the result of an 18-month exercise in which authorities had been asked to set targets in which manpower growth levelled off. Their plans had originally shown an increase of 7,000 staff.

The money saved by the reductions, the equivalent of £40m in a full year, would contribute to the 1 per cent cut announced by the Chancellor in July.

The cuts did not reduce the government's commitment to the health service. "We are still spending more in real terms on the NHS this year than ever before."

4,837 jobs to go as health cuts are agreed

By Nicholas Timmins

Almost 5,000 National Health Service jobs cuts were announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, as reductions for the last three regions were agreed.

The package means that 6,000 jobs will go in 16 of the 14 English regions by next March, while Trent, East Anglia, Oxford and Wessex are to be allowed 1,163 more jobs between them.

The reduction of 4,837 amounts to just over 0.5 per cent of the health service staff and is appreciably below the cut of about 8,000 jobs that ministers originally suggested. It, nevertheless, takes health manpower back to its 1981-82 level.

Mr Fowler told a press conference held to announce the package, that extra staff to allow new developments to open had resulted in the lower figure.

The reductions, he insisted, were not a new round of cuts sprung on the public after the election, but the result of an 18-month exercise in which authorities had been asked to set targets in which manpower growth levelled off. Their plans had originally shown an increase of 7,000 staff.

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Decline in TV viewing halted

By Richard Evans

Last week the average viewer watched just over 19 hours of television, compared with 18.2 last September. But that is still four hours short of the 1981 figures.

The slight improvement will come as a relief to BBC and commercial television chiefs, who have blamed the decrease in television audiences on the number of video cassette recorders.

The increased popularity of commercial television is emphasized by the failure of the BBC's top attraction, *Blankety Blank*, to get within one million viewers of ITV's tenth favourite programme. The two episodes

of *Coronation Street* each attracted more than 14 million viewers.

Usually, the two BBC channels halve the viewing audience with ITV and Channel 4, but during the three-week period the independent share did not fall below 56 per cent.

The only disappointment within the independent sector was the fall in viewers watching TV-am, which fell to an average of 80,000 last week. In contrast, its BBC rival, *Breakfast Time*, attracted an average audience of 1.5 million.

The fall was partly expected because of the end of end of school summer holidays.

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Banking union rebuff for SDP

Attempts by the Social Democratic Party to woo moderate trade unions suffered a big setback yesterday when the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union rejected its overtures (Barrie Clement writes).

The union, which has 152,000 members was thought to be the one most likely to respond to the SDP's request for talks on the party's employment policies.

But Dr David Owen's recent comments that Mr Norman Tebbit's White Paper on union democracy does not go far enough has severely impaired his party's attractions to the labour movement in general, and the banking union in particular.

Mr Leif Mills, general secretary of the union and an increasingly influential member of the TUC General Council, said yesterday: "The SDP's proposals are more like a PhD thesis than a practical blueprint."

This union would not seek any further contact with the party. "That is the end of the matter as far as we are concerned."

Dartington head plans return

Dr Lyn Blackshaw, who resigned as headmaster of Dartington School, Devon, after compromising pictures of himself and his wife were published in a national newspaper, is hoping to make a return to teaching.

Dr Blackshaw, aged 44, revealed yesterday that he had been approached about setting up a school in the West Country. His wife Beth said: "It will be a brand new school, very progressive and very much to do with the 80s."

470 Metal Box jobs to go

Metal Box yesterday announced the closure next January of its factory at Bromborough, Merseyside - where thermo formed plastic containers are made - with the loss of 470 jobs.

In York, union officials at Rowntree Mackintosh were told that 200 of the firm's 850 maintenance workers were to be made redundant in the new year as a result of a cost-efficiency study.

Sheep-dip order abandoned

The Government has abandoned a plan to introduce compulsory sheep dipping in certain parts of the country for the second time this year.

The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that it had done so reluctantly because of lack of support from the farming industry and because county councils had indicated that enforcement would be difficult.

Progress towards the eradication of sheep scab would be seriously interfered with, and there would be an increased incidence of the disease, it said.

Police hunt for nine boys

A national police search was under way last night for nine boys, aged 14 and 15, who disappeared from their homes on Penryn estate, Aberdeen, south Wales, on Wednesday. The boys, all friends, are pupils at Aberdeen Boys Comprehensive.

The police said: "The boys can probably look after themselves, but they are causing a lot of trouble and anxiety." More than 70 officers are involved in the search locally.

Hillery willing to serve again

The President of the Irish Republic, Dr Patrick Hillery, age 60, announced yesterday that he is prepared to serve another seven years in office when his present term ends in December.

His announcement came after a public appeal from the leaders of the three main political parties urging him to stay on. It is now unlikely that there will be a contested election for the post.

Ten years for blackmailer

A blackmailer who followed men into public lavatories in the Piccadilly area of London and then threatened to tell their wives they had committed homosexual acts was jailed for ten years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Anthony Scanlon, aged 40, of Raglan Road, Plumstead, south-east London, admitted demanding £150 from two men with menaces. The court was told he had a record of 23 similar convictions.

Dealer charged with art thefts

An art dealer charged with stealing prints valued at £12,000 from the Royal Academy, was remanded in custody by Bow Street Magistrates' court yesterday. Sacheverell Houghton, aged 43, from Wandsworth, south London, was also jointly accused with Michael Colgrove of stealing seven paintings valued at £15,000 from the Bishop Otter College, College Lane, Chichester, West Sussex.

New attempt to make MPs toe Labour line

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A fresh attempt will be made at the Labour conference in Brighton next week to give the conference far greater control over the party's MPs.

The conference is to debate at last a motion suggesting that the standing order of the Parliamentary Labour Party should be incorporated in the party constitution and adding to them a commitment requiring the MPs to implement party policy.

The campaign to make the PLP more accountable has been going on for years, alongside the successful constitutional moves to introduce the electoral college and the reselection of MPs and the (so far) unsuccessful attempt to give the national executive the final say on the contents of the party manifesto, but opponents have managed to block discussion at the conference.

A debate has been arranged for next Thursday. The composite motion, which is to be discussed, suggests that the weekly meetings of the PLP should become an important forum for the implementation of conference policy.

It recommends the setting up of a working party to table proposals for reform. Mr Ernest Ross, and Mr William McKelvey, the two left-wing MPs who have been at the forefront of the campaign, said:

No 10 protest

Four hundred letters will be delivered to 10 Downing Street today from villagers at Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, who are backing an appeal by a local Indian couple, Mr Rodney Pereira and his wife Gail, against a Home Office deportation order.

Unions hold key to choice of Labour deputy leader

By Our Political Reporter

The "dream ticket" of Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley, conceived shortly after the start of the Labour leadership contest three months ago, seems almost certain to be achieved by tomorrow's vote at the start of the party conference in Brighton.

Mr Kinnock will have a runaway victory for the leadership. The supporters of Mr Hattersley, his main rival, privately concede that his vote may be as low as 27 per cent of the total poll. Mr Eric Heffer and Mr Peter Shore will finish in third and fourth positions with low shares of the vote.

The outcome of the deputy leadership contest is much less clear, with several big unions, including the construction workers (UCATT), the National Union of Public Employees, the National Union of Mineworkers and the Transport and General Workers' Union, declaring over the weekend.

Voting intentions of top 15 unions

Trade union	% of total electoral college	Leader	Deputy
TGWU (inc. dyers and leatherworkers and agric. wkers.)	8.88	Kinnock	not known
AMSW (Engineering Section)	4.14	Kinnock	Hattersley
NUM	3.82	Kinnock	not known
NUPE	2.66	Kinnock	Hattersley
USDAW	1.59	Kinnock	Hattersley
NUM	1.27	not known	not known
UCATT	1.23	Kinnock	Hattersley
SEIU	1.08	Goytong election	not known
NUR	0.92	not known	not known
ASTMS	0.87	Kinnock	Hattersley
Technical and Supervisory Section, AUEW	0.66	Kinnock	Meacher
POEU	0.54	Kinnock	Hattersley

*Union will switch to Hattersley, after Kinnock leadership win. Of those not known, majority of decisions will be left to delegate meetings tomorrow.

TUC wants inquiry on Dunlop sale

By Our Labour Correspondent

The TUC called yesterday for an investigation into apparent breaches of an international code on multinational companies, in the wake of the Dunlop sale to a Japanese company and the closure of the Caterpillar Tractor Company in the North-east of England.

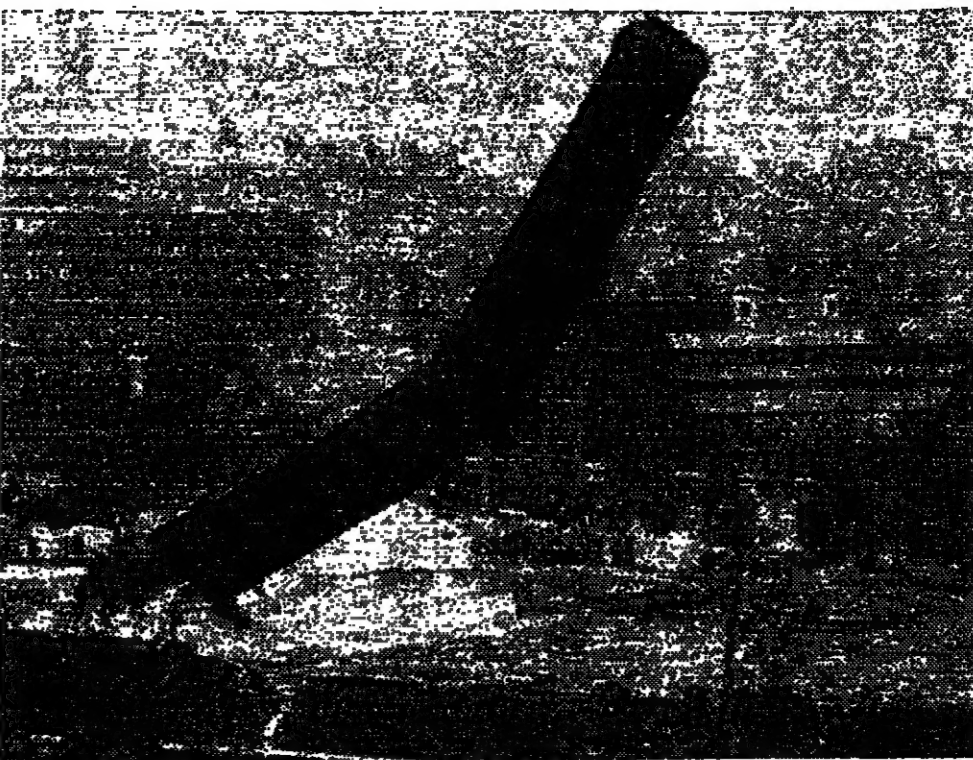
The call for an investigation under the code drawn up by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) was made by Mr David Lea, TUC assistant general secretary, at a conference in London.

"There has been the most flagrant disregard for both the letter and the spirit of the voluntary codes", Mr Lea said.

He argued that the decisions by Dunlop and Caterpillar were taken without any consultation with union officials, which was contrary to the code. He said the Dunlop negotiations for the sale of its UK tyre operations to Sumitomo were kept secret from the unions, although three months ago the company had given assurances that comprehensive discussions would be held with them.

The closure of the Caterpillar plant at Birtley, Tyne and Wear, contrasted with the company's strong opposition to the Vredefling proposals from the European Community for legislation on compulsory disclosure of information.

Union leaders fear that the Sumitomo takeover could lead to the loss of 1,000 jobs and the end of any UK-owned tyre manufacturing. Workers who lost their jobs last night with the closure of Dunlop's tyre factory in Cork plan to picket a tennis match today involving John McEnroe, the Wimbledon tennis champion, who has a £3m contract to use the company's rackets.



Domino theory: The toppling of 2,000 dominoes laid out by Mr Michael Cairney, a civil engineer aged 24 from London, the world domino-topping champion, gave the signal yesterday for the demolition of the 120-foot chimney of Whitehead's Exchange brewery in Sheffield, to make way for a new building. The last domino plated in gold, triggered a detonator switch.

Kinnock to make early big speech

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnock, who is expected to be elected leader of the Labour Party tomorrow will take over the job from Mr Michael Foot officially at noon on Friday if he is successful.

Negotiations are in hand however, for Mr Kinnock to make an important speech to the Party conference on Thursday. The conference will open in Brighton at 5pm tomorrow. The leadership vote is expected to start at about 5.15pm. Only one ballot is likely and the announcement of Mr Kinnock's victory is expected around 6.15pm.



Mr Kinnock: First ballot win expected.

If Mr Roy Hattersley wins the backing of all the undeclared unions he could win on the first ballot, but it is more likely that a second will be required.

The main debates for the week are: Monday: morning, general election report, party organization and structure. Afternoon: private session for the appeals against expulsion of militant leaders.

Tuesday: morning: national executive committee election results, local government, housing, transport. Afternoon: Mr Michael Foot's parliamentary report, health service and social security.

Wednesday: morning: Defence, Iran. Afternoon: "rebuilding Britain" public and private ownership. Thursday: morning: Labour daily newspaper and the media, trade union legislation and youth training, one-member, one-vote in constituency parties. Afternoon: women's organization, Northern Ireland PLP constitution. Friday: Devolution and police.

Ban on Maze escape talks with minister

Form Richard Ford, Belfast

Members of the Northern Ireland assembly's security committee yesterday refused to meet Mr Nicholas Scott, the junior officer responsible for prisons, to discuss the breakout from the Maze jail because they were angry at Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, for rejecting a request for an emergency meeting over the escape.

The committee, a non-statutory body which has no power to order Northern Ireland Office ministers to appear before its 11 members, had demanded the meeting with Mr Prior, but he will not see them until Sir James Heaney, the chief inspector of prisons in the United Kingdom, has completed his report into the escape by 38 Provisional IRA prisoners.

Mr Prior made Mr Scott available to meet the committee, but his attitude infuriated "loyalist" politicians who had been angered over alleged briefings given to journalists in London which outlined what happened inside the Maze as the men began their escape almost a week ago.

The committee believes elected representatives in the province should have been given any initial findings, although the Northern Ireland Office has denied that selected journalists received briefings.

Mr Edgar Graham, an Official Unionist assembly member, accused the Secretary of State of adopting a "stupid attitude", by refusing to meet the security committee, and alleged that he had constantly stood in the way of the assembly becoming more involved in law and order matters.

Meanwhile Sir James Heaney, who has set up headquarters at the Maze, said an early report of his findings should not be expected. It is thought his task, which he described as "a complex and substantial one" would last at least four weeks.

Police in the province, continuing a big security operation, believe that some of the 19 men still on the run, are still north of the border, though senior officers accept that others have crossed into the Irish Republic.

Yesterday, a security operation was mounted around Dromore, Co Down, with scores of police and soldiers searching both the town and surrounding countryside, a few miles from the Maze.

Two charges thrown out in family murder trial

Two members of a family accused of murdering a Glasgow detective were acquitted on two other charges by a High Court judge yesterday.

Before the start of the day's evidence the judge, Lord Robertson, said that after hearing legal argument he was acquitting Mrs Margaret Smith, aged 22, of the attempted murder of Det Constable Duncan Nicholson, and her younger brother Hugh Murray, aged 16, of assaulting Mr William Strang.

Murray, his father Hugh, aged 50, his brothers James, aged 28, and William, aged 20, and Smith all deny murdering Det Sergeant Ross Hunt outside the family home in Earn Gardens, Larkhall, Lanarkshire, in June.

Hugh junior, William and James also deny attempting to murder Det Constable Nicholson. Hugh junior further denies assaulting Alexander Matusavage, aged 17, with a knife, permanently disfiguring him, and in a special defence of incrimination blames Mr Strang.

The High Court in Glasgow was told yesterday that Hugh junior and Mr Matusavage were involved in a fight over an orange order walk.

The trial continues.

Drugs chief died of heart attack

Terence Sinclair, the millionaire drugs dealer who was described as a ruthless killer, died after moving a lawn in a prison garden, an inquest was told yesterday.

The man who was jailed for life for the "hundreds of corpses" killing, and who was at the centre of investigations into 11 murders in New Zealand and Australia, suffered a heart attack at Parkhurst Prison on August 12.

He was reported to have been prepared to name IRA gun runners who were using drugs profits to buy arms, and a second post-mortem examination was requested after a New Zealand MP described Sinclair's death as "extremely suspicious".

But the jury at the inquest in Newport, Isle of Wight, yesterday returned a verdict that Sinclair died of natural causes.

Sidney Draper, a fellow prisoner, told the inquest that he went with Sinclair to the prison canteen after he complained of feeling unwell. Minutes later Sinclair was laying on the floor.

"It seemed to me that he was really choking badly for breath", Draper said. "This went on for a couple of minutes. Then it seemed to me his face did change colour. It took on a sort of bluish tinge. He was fighting for every breath." Dr William Kenward, a Home Office pathologist, gave the cause of death as "coronary thrombosis due to or as a result of atheroma".

Sinclair, aged 38, was jailed for a minimum of 20 years in July, 1981, for his part in the murder of Marty Johnstone, a key member of an international drug syndicate masterminded by Sinclair. Johnstone's mutilated body was dumped in a Lancashire quarry.

Trade union reform proposals criticized by industrialists

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Sharp differences emerged last night between industrialists' organizations in their responses to the Government's latest labour law reform proposals which are due to be laid before Parliament later this month.

The Institute of Directors, which have been influential in framing the Government's approach to trade union reform over the last three years, is pressing for tighter controls on the unions, while the Institute of Personnel Management (IPM) wants any future legislation to be kept to a minimum.

A third group, the Industrial Society, says that it is "extremely difficult to legislate for such a diverse group as British trade unions." It questions the wisdom of compulsory strike ballots as does the IPM, which represents senior personnel and industrial relations executives.

The organizations' views are contained in their submissions to Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, in response to his White Paper on further union reform which will form the basis of a Bill to be published by the Government later this month.

The Institute of Directors expresses particular concern at the omission of any proposals to curb strikes in key public services. It "deeply regrets" the lack of legislation in this area and says that unless it is quickly established that voluntary agreements to prevent strikes can be secured with the unions.

The Institute welcomed Mr Tebbit's remarks after meeting the TUC on Thursday that his legislation would be a "looser garment" than the legal strait-jacket feared by the TUC.

Navy says farewell to Chatham

By Alan Hamilton

The Royal Navy's 436-year link with Chatham came to an end last night when the white ensign was lowered for the last time to mark the formal closure of the royal dockyard.

Chatham, a victim of Sir John Nott's 1981 defence cuts, joins Singapore and Simonstown, Trincomalee and Malta, Penelope and Sheerness, among the redundant symbols of the Navy's imperial past.

In a sunset ceremony, the ensign and the flag of Admiral William Haggis, Flag Officer Medway, were lowered to signify the end of the Navy's Medway Command. The base will be rapidly run down and will finally close next March, with the loss of 7,000 jobs.

The Government's Property Services Agency is trying to attract commercial businesses to take over parts of the dockyard. A private company is expected to continue flag making in the old sail loft, built in 1734 by French prisoners of war, and the quarter-mile long rope works is also to continue in private hands. Tenants are being sought for other parts of the yard.

During the Second World War the workforce swelled to 13,000, but it has been under threat of closure for many years. The opening of a nuclear submarine refitting and refuelling bay in 1968 seemed to guarantee a more secure future, but in the end the dockyard was unable to survive the savage reductions of the fleet.

Unions have agreed to a plan that will save 1,500 jobs at the Portsmouth naval dockyard (the Press Association reports). It will come into force in a year's time when the dockyard adopts its new role as a fleet maintenance and repair base.

The unions have agreed to a formula that will introduce more flexible working, end demarcation, and result in civilian and Royal Navy staff working together.

Photograph, page 10

SNP goes hard on home rule

The Scottish National Party yesterday overwhelmingly rejected the gradualist approach to Scottish self-government and voted to reaffirm its commitment to settle for nothing less than outright independence.

After a long and at times heated debate at the party's annual conference in Rothesay, the party chairman, Mr Gordon Wilson, claimed that he had been granted the freedom to continue his efforts to seek a joint approach with other political parties in Scotland towards self-government, but the mood of the delegates was overwhelmingly in favour of the hard-line stance.

Mr Wilson appealed for the party to reject the "negative image" which an "independent, nothing less" policy gave to the SNP. "It erects a division between us and the electorate," he said.

The party chairman's face was saved by a phrase in the successful motion which said that the SNP would not obstruct devolutionary moves, but the conference did reject two amendments which would have allowed the party's MPs to support any devolutionary moves by other parties.

One of the turning points was when Mr Wilson's fellow MP, Mr Donald Stewart, the party president, declared his support for a hard-line amendment which would have deleted any reference to devolution.

Mr James Taggart, a national executive member, was cheered when he said that anyone ashamed of their belief in independence would be better sitting in a corner knitting or collecting stamps.

Overseas selling prices
Austria 90.00, Belgium 90.00, Canada 90.00, France 90.00, Germany 90.00, Italy 90.00, Japan 90.00, Netherlands 90.00, Portugal 90.00, Spain 90.00, Sweden 90.00, Switzerland 90.00, Taiwan 90.00, Thailand 90.00, United Kingdom 90.00, USA 90.00, West Germany 90.00.



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Package war intensifies as Intersun cuts holiday prices by 6%

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The price war over next summer's foreign package holidays gained pace yesterday as Intersun Leisure, the third largest tour operator, brought a four-week, cut-price offer to all its 1984 summer holidays.

The bargain, valid for bookings made before November 8, tips six per cent off prices in Intersun's 1983 brochure. That means it is undercutting by about four per cent on a typical £200 holiday - new low prices introduced by the two other big tour operators, Thomson Holidays and Horizon Travel, which have already published their 1984 summer season brochures. Some individual holiday reductions are much greater.

The Intersun move follows a big surge in bookings by Thomson and Horizon, Intersun, which normally brings out its brochure in late October, is clearly anxious not to miss the bookings rush.

The Intersun offer is in a slim,

Price cuts so far	Reduction
Thomson summer sun	2%
Thomson self-catering	6%
Horizon	6%
Thomson Cook (overall)	4%
Thomson self-catering	7%
Intersun interim brochure*	6%

*Valid to November 8. Comparisons are with each company's latest summer brochure.

12-page interim brochure which lists price-cuts in 60 resorts, and it is designed to be read in conjunction with the 1983 brochures. The interim brochures are going out to travel agents over the weekend and selling starts on Monday.

On October 18 there will also be on offer 7,000 free holidays for children travelling with adults, a proportion of the 15,000 free holidays Intersun will be offering.

If any prices are marked even lower in the full 1984 brochure,

a lower price will apply retrospectively to early bookings, according to Mr Sidney Perez, Intersun's chief executive. Intersun is absorbing airport taxes, usually about £10 a holidaymaker.

With Intersun's bookings this summer likely to be 27 per cent up on the previous year, the company was aware of an enormous pent-up demand for the 1984 holiday season. Mr Perez said, Intersun is aiming at a 20 per cent expansion. Its estimate of growth in the market overall is between 5 and 10 per cent.

The big question is whether Intersun can sustain the extent of the price cuts when it brings out its main brochure.

Thomson reported yesterday selling 100,000 summer 1984 holidays in the three weeks since it launched its new brochure, half as many again as in the same period last year. Horizon said its bookings were 42 per cent up.

Armed raids reach record levels

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

An increased use of pistols and a rise in the number of armed bank raids led to record figures for armed robbery last year, according to the annual crime statistics recorded by the police. Firearms were used in more than 10 per cent of robberies for the first time (11.2 per cent).

Police recorded 8,400 offences in which firearms were reported to have been used, a rise of about 4 per cent. About 2,600 were armed robberies; 3,000 criminal damage and the remainder mainly crimes of violence against the person.

The number of offences initially regarded as homicide totalled 619, compared with 556 in 1981, but similar to the peak years in 1979 and 1980. Eleven were the result of terrorism. Six police officers were killed on duty.

There were 576 offences recorded as homicide, a record. But the Home Office says that the figure is always reduced because police investigations establish that some cases cannot be classified as homicide.

Homicide covers the offences of murder, manslaughter and infanticide, for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment. The previous year's figure of 570 offences was eventually reduced to 503, and it is the lower figure which is significant.

The report says that in 1982 two million people were found guilty in the courts and 160,000 offenders, mainly juveniles and females, were cautioned by the

police. It adds that 586,000 were found guilty of, or cautioned for, indictable offences, a record number and 3 per cent higher than in 1981.

The main increases between 1981 and 1982 were for drug offences (up 12 per cent); robbery (6 per cent); driving while disqualified (6 per cent); theft and handling stolen goods (4 per cent); and violence against the person (3 per cent).

Between 1972 and 1982, the highest number of convictions or cautions for indictable offences per head of population was among males aged between 14 and 17. The second highest was among those aged 17 to 21.

The number of adult defendants committed to crown courts for trial (86,000) was a record. The report says that a downward effect on the prison population of a reduced sentence was more than offset by the increased numbers of prison sentences.

The report emphasizes that the amount of recorded crime is not the same as that committed. Some of the increase in recorded crime over the last decade has been because of more frequent reports and more efficient recording practices.

The increase in domestic burglaries reported was mainly because of increased recording. Figures of recorded crime for the second quarter of 1983, issued on Wednesday, showed it to be levelling off.

Criminal Statistics England and Wales 1982. Command 9048. £11.90 (Stationery Office).

University flat for child student and parents

A special flat has been set aside for Ruth Lawrence, aged 12, and her family when she arrives in Oxford next week to begin her studies.

Ruth, who was ten when she won top marks in the college entrance exam, will spend three years at St Hugh's College. She is believed to be the youngest student ever to have been at Oxford.

She will attend up to ten lectures a week and submit written work for tutorials within college.

Her father, Mr Harry Lawrence, resigned as a computer consultant to teach her at home when she was five. His wife, Sylvia, still works in the computer field.

St Hugh's made the initial approach to the girl's parents after hearing of her desire to go to university before the normal age. The principal, Mrs Rachel Trickett, said: "She was awarded a scholarship by the college on the basis of her competitive performance in the entrance examination."

"Miss Lawrence will not be technically resident in college while she is a student here, but will initially live in college accommodation, in a flat that

has been made available to her family. With this one exception, no special arrangements have been made by the college."

"While university students far younger than the usual age are very uncommon, they are by no means unknown, particularly in mathematics."

St Hugh's is one of the few remaining women's colleges in Oxford. Of the year's intake of 180 girls, Ruth Lawrence is one of eight reading mathematics.

She attended Huddersfield Technical College, where she gained A levels in pure mathematics, mathematics syllabus B, further mathematics-B and physics.

Gun dealer may appeal

The former gun dealer who was ordered on Thursday to pay £512 damages to a burglar for shooting him in the thigh, said yesterday that he had no savings and was considering an appeal.

Mr William Greenwood, aged 54, of Little Eaton, Derby, who has a heart condition, said he and his wife were living on invalid benefit of £52 a week.

Brittan is firm on shoplifting

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office is encouraging a more consistent use of cautioning by police, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, says in letters to an MP about shoplifting.

Although Mr Brittan opposes a change in the law to protect the innocent, he accepts that improvements could be made in procedures. A proposed independent prosecution service, which he expects to announce soon, should be of help, he says.

The release of the correspondence by Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch, coincides with a spinster's legal victory against a store which had branded her a thief. Miss Dora White, aged 72, was awarded £1,295 damages from W P Brown in York, which wrongly accused her of stealing and subjected her to a humiliating interrogation.

Mr Adley, who has campaigned for shoppers' rights in such cases, and Mr Baldwin



Mr Leon Brittan: Opposes changes in law

Drummond, a magistrate and former High Sheriff of Hampshire, are to discuss reform proposals with Mr David Mellor, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office.

Mr Adley says that self service shopping has created a paradise for rogues by increasing shoplifting. "Those who take goods inadvertently are caught in a trap whereby admission of having stolen goods leaves people, on apprehension, in the position of having to prove their innocence."

But Mr Brittan says that a change in the law to protect the innocent is not necessary. "A person who takes goods absent-mindedly has a defence to the charge of theft; namely that he did not intend to take them."

The correspondence caused an immediate clash with the Association for the Prevention of Theft in Shops, which Mr Adley says influences the Home Office. He describes the association as "merely a well-financed and effective propaganda unit for the big stores."

Lady Phillips, the association's director, said yesterday that the association did not have undue influence.



The good old days: Mr Alistair McAlpine with three eel spears, between 100 and 200 years old, which are among the implements to be auctioned today. Other bygoners to go under the hammer include a double sprung man-trap and china milk pails. Photographs: John Voos.

Man trap for sale

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Something of the serenity and beauty, hardship and cruelty of life on the farm in past centuries will be evoked today when an unusual collection of agricultural equipment is auctioned.

The collection has been amassed over the past 20 years by Mr Alistair McAlpine, and the sale is taking place at West Green House, Harley Wintney, Hampshire, which he rents from the National Trust.

There are more than 600 items, ranging in size from horsedrawn ploughs and other field implements to tiny butter stamps.

They include a magnificent sail reaper, corn grinders, dozens of farm tools, beautiful china milk pails and metal churns, and horrendously ugly bird and animal traps, together with a double sprung spiked man trap, vicious enough to sever the foot of some unfortunate poacher.

Most of the larger items are likely to be bought by museums, but Mr Tim Evans of the auctioneers, Pearsons, expects keen bidding for many of the smaller implements, particularly in the dairy category.

Arts cash change urged

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company should be funded either directly by the Government or have money earmarked separately for them, according to a government report to be published on Monday.

At present they and the two other national companies, the National Theatre and the English National Opera, are allocated funds by the Arts Council from its government grant. Direct funding would take away the Arts Council's responsibility, while the "ear-marking" proposal would leave

the council with some, though much diminished, responsibility for the financing of the big four companies.

The report is the work of Mr Clive Priestley, who was appointed in February to carry out a Rayner scrutiny into the two companies by Mr Paul Channon, then Minister for the Arts. The report finds that the companies are in general efficient and clear of them of any charge of waste or extravagance, concluding that if they are to maintain the status of national companies they need more money.

Mr Lawrence challenged some of this evidence and said that Mr Martin had been desperate to see his girl friend, Miss Susan Stephens, and had threatened to kill himself if the police did not bring her to the police station.

Mr Martin, aged 36, has had pleas of not guilty entered against 15 charges, including the attempted murder of Police Constable Nicholas Carr.

The trial will continue on Monday.

"Revealed at last. Australia II's secret weapon."

"Good on yer, Australia II!
"I'm proud of you! You won the Americas Cup fair and square in the Yanks' own back yard.
"And you did it with oceans of Australian grit and knowhow - and me!
"Yes, it can now be revealed.
"Those rumours about winged keels were just a lot of yachting bilge.
"It was flipping Koala power that did it!
"What's more, after years countering Qantas and its dirty tricks, it was a real pleasure to help you take the wind out of the sails of the New York Yacht Club.
"So I wish John Bertrand and his crew fair weather when they return to Australia to prepare for the defence of the Cup.
"But flying that priceless trophy to Perth with Qantas?
"Well, it may be the most reliable airline with you sailors, but it leaves us Koalas high and dry!"

QANTAS
The Australian Airline.



Privately-rented housing in decline

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The latest instalment of the 1981 census shows a continued decline in privately-rented housing. In the early 1960s a third of households rented their accommodation from private landlords, but that has fallen to about an eighth today.

The census was the first to show that more than half of households were home-owners. London remains the last bastion of the private landlord, with one of the lowest levels of owner occupation in the country, 48.6 per cent.

More than one in five London households rents its home privately, compared with only about one in ten in Wales and the West Midlands. The highest level of owner occupation is in South-west England, where 63.2 per cent of households own their own home. The South-west also has one of the lowest levels of council housing, while in the

	Total households	Owner occupied	Council rented	Privately rented and other
England and Wales	17,708,000	57.9	28.8	13.4
North	1,118,000	47.1	40.6	12.4
Yorkshire and Humberside	1,708,000	58.2	22.9	11.5
East Midlands	1,372,000	59.6	29.5	11.8
East Anglia	678,000	58.4	28.6	15.0
South-east	6,091,000	57.3	28.4	18.3
Greater London	2,500,000	48.6	28.7	22.7
South-west	1,577,000	63.2	21.9	15.0
West Midlands	1,814,000	57.4	32.2	10.4
North West	2,238,000	58.8	29.6	10.9
Wales	988,000	60.5	29.2	10.3

Sources: Census 1981, Housing and households Tables 7, 21 and 22

counties between North Yorkshire and the Scottish border more than a third of households live in council homes.

The 600 pages of statistics in the latest publication from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys contains many striking aspects of modern Britain in their tables. On census night almost 6,000 English households with more

than one person to each room had no inside lavatory and no access to a bath. Almost 200 of those households consisted of at least ten people.

A detailed breakdown shows that of the 2.5 million households counted in London, more than 70,000 consisted of single people over retiring age in privately rented accommodation.

Anti-Zia group warns US of a new Iran as Weinberger flies in

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defence, flew in to Pakistan last night in the middle of the worst turmoil the country has suffered during the past six years of military rule.

Americans and American policies have generally been blamed by the opposition for maintaining the martial law regime of President Mohammed Zia ul-Haq in power.

Several demonstrations during the past month and much of the trouble in Sind Province have had a distinctly anti-American tone. In a meeting held in the grounds of the Karachi Press Club this week, the only banner to appear in English read: "Down with US imperialism. Down with Zionism." At the end of the meeting an American flag was ritually burnt to the applause of journalists and intellectuals.

After a meeting of its Central Action Committee, the nine-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) issued a fierce statement to welcome Mr Weinberger. The statement said the visit was "apparently to assure further support of the Reagan Administration to Zia ul-Haq and to consolidate his position against the will of the people of Pakistan".

The statement said: "If they continue to support a usurper

and a dictator in Pakistan their fate will not be any different than what happened in Iran."

American aid to Pakistan, both military and economic, has risen dramatically during the past few years. The growth has been connected with the American need to see it as a bastion of the West after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The Soviet action coincided with the burgeoning of the martial law regime in Pakistan, and the generals have benefitted not only by the sale of sophisticated modern weapons but also by large injections of funds to assist in the feeding, sheltering and medical needs of the Afghan refugees.

The Pakistan and American Governments have agreed to a package of \$3.2 billion (about £2.1 billion) of aid to last until the end of 1987. Only \$1.625 billion (about £1.1 billion) is for economic assistance.

The Pakistan Government has expressed its concern over a shortfall in the amount of aid received in the current year of more than \$10m (about £6.6m) and will be raising the subject in discussions with Mr Weinberger during the course of the next two days of talks.

But the Government has other worries about American aid, which though they well be unspoken during the meeting.

will certainly be at the back of the officials' minds.

The Pakistan leaders will be anxious to know how far the Americans will maintain their commitment to the Zia regime if the present troubles in the country continue, or worsen. They are also anxious to establish the extent of the US commitment in the eventuality of Indian intervention.

The Pakistanis have in mind what happened to US aid in 1965 and in 1973, when hostilities broke out between themselves and India. In 1965, they cut off aid to both sides. Since Pakistan was the main recipient, and indeed depended almost exclusively upon it, this was a crippling blow.

In 1973, although President Nixon seemed to be in favour of helping Pakistan, Dr Henry Kissinger, his Secretary of State, was not so prepared to advance their cause.

A leading article in the Government-owned *Pakistan Times* yesterday declares the Americans to be an unreliable ally.

The paper says: "The schedule decided upon earlier is not being followed in the matter of supplies. This not only revives the old argument about the reliability and credibility of the American connexion but poses a practical problem for Pakistan."



Mothers' plea: Members of the Salvadorean Mothers' Committee of Political Prisoners begging the Government during a protest in San Salvador to reveal the fate of 3,600 "disappeared ones".

Central American tensions

Bogotá talks on El Salvador peace end in deadlock

Bogotá (Reuters) - Talks between the El Salvador Government and leftist guerrillas trying to overthrow it broke up in deadlock yesterday after a four-hour session.

"We have made all possible efforts to invite the guerrillas to join the electoral process and they have categorically and definitely rejected our proposal," Señor Francisco Guzmán, President of the Salvador Government's Peace Commission, told a press conference.

He said the talks, which began in the Colombian capital last month, would resume only if the guerrillas decided to take part in El Salvador's elections, tentatively set for next February.

One of the guerrilla representatives, Señor Jorge Villacorta, told reporters the leftists were dejected after the meeting with the three-man commission appointed by the United States-backed Government.

Belisario Betancur, of Colombia who organized the talks, told reporters earlier that both sides were anxiously trying to end El Salvador's four-year-old civil war.

Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and Panama agreed to make joint efforts in January to seek a negotiated settlement for Central American conflicts. The guerrillas hope to postpone elections until they obtain a political foothold in El Salvador.

GUATEMALA CITY: Ex-President Richard Nixon will accompany Dr Henry Kissinger the former Secretary of State, when he visits Guatemala on October 13, a Government spokesman said here (Reuters reports).

Dr Kissinger, who served under Mr Nixon, was named head of a bipartisan commission on Central America by President Reagan on July 18. The commission is charged with drawing up recommendations on long-term US policy options in the region.

SAN JOSE: Costa Rica has recalled its envoy in Nicaragua as a protest after accusing Nicaraguan troops of attacking Costa Rican Government buildings near the border (Reuters reports).

The announcement, further strained already tense relations between the two countries.

Panama gets three armed services

Panama City (Reuters) - Panama's Legislative Council has approved a controversial Bill turning the National Guard into a three-branch defence force with an Army, Air Force and Navy.

The Bill was presented on Thursday night by President Ricardo de la Espriella and political sources expected it to expand substantially the present force of 15,000 men.

Opponents said the measure was rushed through before the Council ends its current session today and that it tipped the balance of power in favour of the military. The Christian Democrat Party plans to file a suit to block the Bill from taking effect, Señor Guillermo Cochez, the party leader, said.

In creating a military "with privileges that work against the functions of the executive and legislative branches, we are moving one step backward", Señor Cochez said.

The law will take effect when it is published in the official gazette. No date was given.

The opposition Popular Action Party said yesterday that the law gave the armed forces "unlimited powers".



President de la Espriella: Measure "rushed through".

Argentina's creditors are hit by court order

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

A court order imposing a "freeze" on the renegotiation of Argentina's public sector foreign debt has brought the country into deadlock with foreign creditor banks, led to serious disagreements within the military junta and forced the authorities to deny rumours of the resignation of Señor Jorge Wehbe, the Economy Minister.

The order was issued by Señor Federico Pinto Kramer, a federal judge from the province of Santa Cruz. The judge objects to the terms of an agreement to reschedule the \$220m (£147m) foreign debt of Aerolíneas Argentinas, the state airline, which was signed earlier this month.

The agreement was intended as a model for the renegotiation of remaining public sector foreign debt, which totals approximately \$7.5 billion a large portion of the country's total debts of \$40 billion. Judge Pinto Kramer's decision effectively freezes any further renegotiations.

As a result, foreign creditor banks have decided to postpone payment of \$300m, the first tranche of a \$1.5 billion medium-term, credit signed in August. Also delayed is payment of the third tranche of the International Monetary Fund's standby credit, worth approximately \$300m.

The banks have set October 17 as the new deadline for Argentina to sort out its internal legal problems. In the interim, Argentina is close to a technical default.

Judge Pinto Kramer's initiative is supported by the Air Force and criticized by the Army and Navy High Command, who complain that it is putting the country's international payments at risk.

Señor Wehbe: Economic strategy sabotaged.

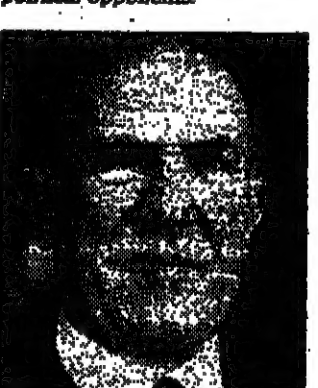
The Government is expected to appeal against the order, but has been forced to honour it in the meantime. As a result the Central Bank has had to stop authorizing foreign payments.

The judge's initiative sabotaged the whole debt renegotiating strategy carried out by Señor Wehbe and Señor Julio González del Solar, the Central Bank President.

Jail demand: An Argentine federal prosecutor has requested that Admiral Emilio Massera, a former Navy commander and junta member, be sentenced to five years in jail.

Admiral Massera was arrested earlier this year and charged with involvement in the "disappearance" of a businessman in 1977. The prosecutor asked a federal judge to jail him for "withholding evidence" and failing to report a crime.

Human rights groups accuse the retired admiral, who was one of the leaders of the 1976 military coup, of responsibility for the torture and deaths of political opponents.



Señor Wehbe: Economic strategy sabotaged.

Referendum demanded in Chile

Santiago (Reuters) - Chilean politicians opposed to the rule of President Pinochet have renewed talks with the Government and demanded a referendum next year to provide for a quick return to democracy.

Señor Gabriel Valdés, the former Foreign Minister, and president of the five-party opposition Democratic Alliance Jara, the Interior Minister, said after meeting Señor Sergio Jarpa, the Interior Minister, on Thursday night that the Alliance believed General Pinochet should step down during the transition.

He said the opposition wanted a say in writing electoral laws, in the referendum to approve elections to a constituent assembly and in framing an emergency programme to tackle Chile's economic crisis which has put one person in three out of work.

"I think we have advanced inasmuch as the Government has showed its willingness to begin a process of democratization", Señor Valdés said. But Señor Jarpa has not approved the referendum demand.

Peru denies Amnesty allegations

By Colin Harding

The Peruvian Government has rejected accusations by Amnesty International that security forces have committed serious human rights violations during anti-guerrilla operations in the south-central Andes.

Claiming that the nature of the terrorist threat in Peru is often misunderstood, the Government alleges that 19 peasants were killed and 19 injured in an attack by Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas on the village of Chiguan, in Ayacucho department.

An Interior Ministry statement likens the "blindly homicidal" actions of Sendero Luminoso to those of Pol Pot in Cambodia.

Municipal elections are due in November, and the Government is determined that they should take place in the guerrilla zone, even though the left-wing parties in Congress have said they will boycott them in Ayacucho, since the security of their candidates and supporters cannot be guaranteed.

Afghan pull-out rejected

Moscow (AFP) - The withdrawal of the Soviet Army from Afghanistan is not "foreseeable in the immediate future", according to Soviet press reports.

In an article on the "limited contingent" of Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan, *Sovetskaya Rossiya* said the time had not come for them to return home.

While a withdrawal was "anticipated", it was not going to happen in the short term because of the "continued intense military aid from reports".

international imperialist forces to the counter-revolutionaries".

The papers special correspondent in Kabul admitted the soldiers were having a hard time. He described how a tank unit on patrol had come under fire from "bandits".

ISLAMABAD: President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan made a rare public tour of central Kabul on Thursday and Kabul radio said he talked with a workshop reception (Reuters reports).

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Botha fury at Thatcher meddling in the affairs of South Africa

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister of white-ruled South Africa, and Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of black-ruled Zimbabwe, appear to have at least one thing in common. Each is angry at what he sees as unwarranted British interference in his country's affairs.

Addressing a youth congress of the ruling National Party on Thursday night, Mr Botha told Mrs Thatcher to "take her nose out of South Africa's affairs." The phrase was used by the pro-government Afrikaans newspaper, *Beeld*, as the headline over its report of the speech, which ran as its main front-page story yesterday.

The cause of Mr Botha's wrath was a recently released letter written by Mrs Thatcher to Mr Ian Lloyd, a right-wing Conservative MP, at the end of July, in which she set out British policy towards South Africa. The letter contained few surprises but has been given wide coverage here.

Only a few days earlier Mr Mugabe, on his return from a visit to Ireland, the United States and Canada, had denounced British "meddling", a reference to criticism of the redeployment of white Zimbabwean Air Force officers after they had been cleared in court of charges of sabotage.

Mrs Thatcher had made some "very tasteless remarks" about South Africa's internal policies, Mr Botha said. He was amazed because "I had never had anything to say about the way Britain handles herself - in Northern Ireland for instance. Britain was happy enough to trade with South Africa. But would there be any trade at all, he asked, if South Africa was not run as it was?"

What seems to have particularly upset Mr Botha was Mrs Thatcher's view that the internal situation in South Africa was "the underlying cause" of the escalation of tension in the southern African region which

created opportunities for "communist involvement and meddling in African affairs." She also argued, in response to the familiar "double standards" allegation, that South Africa was a unique human rights case because of "its institutionalized separation of the races and the repressive measures used to enforce this policy."

In another passage she upheld the sports boycott of South Africa, taking the line that "sport cannot be separated from other aspects of life, and that sport in South Africa cannot be completely integrated until apartheid is abandoned."

After Mrs Thatcher's sweeping election victory last June, there was speculation in Afrikaans newspapers here that she might relax official policy towards South Africa. This overlooked the extent to which British policy on South Africa is part of a wider international consensus.

Poll rebuff for Smith party

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front party, which for years was seen as the sole political voice of Zimbabwe's whites, suffered its second successive defeat yesterday in a close-run by-election.

The poll in the white-roll farming constituency of Makoni saw Mr Russell Kay scrape home against Mr Francois Smit of the RF by 493 votes to 434. The RF claimed it had been refused permission to hold an election meeting in one area and denied advertising space in the press. But last year's breakaway movement from the party by nine white MPs who said they favoured "cooperation not confrontation" with Mr Robert Mugabe's government,

has now clearly established electoral credibility.

Independents number 11 in the House of Assembly and the RF nine.

The result could ease strains arising from Mr Mugabe's recent three-nation tour, his outburst against Britain and threats against whites here.

An RF victory would have been seen by Zanu (PF) MPs as evidence that whites were locked into an adversarial stance against the government. Rancorous debates would have followed.

That having been averted, an opportunity exists for the situation to cool. Parliamentary proceedings over the past few days have been notable for what appear to be attempts by

independent MPs to foster such a cooling-off.

Two independents, both formerly RF MPs, congratulated Mr Mugabe on Wednesday on matters related to the budget.

When Mr Smith rose to take issue with Mr Mugabe's anti-British diatribe and claimed to be speaking on behalf of the white community he was sharply contradicted by independents.

Privately, many whites expressed disquiet over Mr Mugabe's remarks, the implied threat that if Mrs Margaret Thatcher continues to pursue the issue of the detained airman other whites might suffer.

Reagan and Mubarak of one mind

From Moshe Ali, Washington

President Reagan held talks with President Mubarak of Egypt here yesterday reinforced by congressional authority to keep US peace-keeping marines in Lebanon for another 18 months if necessary.

President Mubarak has been strongly supporting Mr Reagan's efforts to get a withdrawal of all foreign forces - Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian - from Lebanon as early as possible.

Lebanon developments and Mr Reagan's statement plan for an Arab-Israeli settlement of September 1 last year are key topics in Mr Mubarak's one-day talks.

The Republican-controlled Senate on Thursday joined the House of Representatives in passing a compromise resolution approving the continued presence of the 1,200 Marines in the multinational peace-keeping force in Beirut. The force also has contingents from France, Italy and Britain.

Welcoming the Senate vote, President Reagan said that it sent "a strong signal to the world: America stands united, we speak with one voice, and we fulfil our responsibilities as a trustee of freedom, peace and self-determination."

Lebanon talks may be at sea

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Syria has been told that France is still prepared to allow the Lebanese "national reconciliation" conference to be held on board a warship of the French fleet off Beirut - probably the aircraft carrier *Foch* - if no suitable venue can be found for the meeting in the Arab world.

The Syrians have told the Lebanese that they do not want the conference held in Saudi Arabia since they believe that this would permit the Saudis - and therefore the United States - to exercise too much influence over it.

President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon is ready to hold the conference in his own country, but Lebanese opposition politicians have objected. Former President Suleiman Franjeh, a strong supporter of Syria, for example, is claiming that if the meeting is held in Beirut, the participants will effectively be hostage to the Christian Phalangist militia which control the eastern suburbs of the city.

Mr Raymond Edde, the liberal Christian Maronite politician living in Paris, who is to receive an invitation to the conference, does not want the

meeting held in Lebanon at all. For obvious reasons Mr Gemayel is not prepared to host such a conference in territory occupied by either Syria or Israel.

The French, who have become increasingly irritated by American attempts to bring peace to Lebanon, have long regarded themselves as having a special relationship with the Lebanese that stretches back to the days before the French mandate; and so it is being said in Damascus. President Mitterrand is enthusiastic about the idea of providing a French venue for what could prove a turning point in Lebanese history.

The US is unlikely to raise any objection to the French proposal, not least because most of the participants would reject the idea of meeting aboard an American vessel.

BEIRUT: Lebanon's military security committee announced plans yesterday to improve access to Beirut in a further step toward restoring normality (Our Correspondent writes).

The four-man committee, formed to coordinate ceasefire activities, said that it had agreed

to four steps designed to further reduce tensions among the rival military factions. The ceasefire began last Monday.

High on the list outlined on state radio, was the committee's decision to begin eliminating the military checkpoints on the roads leading to the international airport, and to reopen the coastal road south of Beirut.

The committee, made up of representatives of the Lebanese army as well as the Christian, Druze and Shia Muslim militias on Thursday had approved reopening the airport, which has been closed by the fighting for more than a month.

The other points agreed should lead to the exchange of prisoners, the admission of International Red Cross workers to heavily-shelled mountain villages, and a decline in the rearmament of existing militia positions in and around Beirut. The committee did not say when these steps would be implemented.

Several ceasefire violations were reported. The state radio said that opposition militias fired light cannon at Lebanese army positions in the Aley mountains south-east of here.

Prison for football fraud gang

Budapest (Reuters) - Thirty-two people who rigged Hungarian football matches in order to make killings on the pools have received heavy prison sentences and fines.

The Budapest High Court named the ringleader as Jozsef Farago, aged 46, and sentenced him to six years in jail and five years' loss of civic rights. He was also ordered to repay 10 million forints (£145,000) to the national pools company.

His four main accomplices were jailed for terms of 18 months to five years, and 27 others received suspended sentences.

Opposition face sedition charge

Kampala (AFP) - Eight officials of the Ugandan opposition Democratic Party, including an MP, Mr John Kawunga, have been charged with sedition and trying to cause "hatred, contempt and disaffection" against the Government.

The party weekly, *Munnansi*, alleged on September 21 that starving prisoners at the maximum security Luzira prison were made to donate blood to an army hospital.

Pilots call strike

Houston (Reuters) - The US Airline Pilots Association, with 33,000 members, has called for a national strike after Continental Airlines flight crews said they would stop work today in protest against pay cuts.

Republic plan

Port Louis (Reuters) - The Mauritian Cabinet has approved draft amendments to the constitution to make the island a republic within the Commonwealth, according to an official communiqué.

ANC sentences

Pietermaritzburg (Reuters) - Three members of the African National Congress - Magwala, Sipho Dima and Mzwakhe Cikosani - were sentenced to between 12 and 24 years imprisonment for their part in attempts to blow up bridges last year in Natal province.

Marijuana haul

Brest (AP) - French customs arrested a Panamanian cargo ship carrying at least five tons of cannabis off the Brittany coast. It was reported to be heading for Britain.

Gun Law

Augsburg (AP) - Two men were killed and four badly wounded, including two policemen, in a shoot-out after police stopped a car in this Bavarian city.

Seal ban

Brussels - A two-year ban on the import of all baby seal products into the EEC comes into effect today.

Widow's mite

Sydney (Reuters) - Beverley Field, aged 39, who is on parole after stabbing her husband to death, is claiming a widow's pension from the Government. She told a parole tribunal that her husband frequently came home drunk and assaulted her.

US unions seek 'king maker' role

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

This weekend 500 barons of organized labour in the United States will gather in a Florida seaside resort to bestow one of the first big prizes of the presidential campaign.

For the first time in its history the AFL-CIO and its 96 affiliated unions will endorse a presidential contender in advance of the primary elections and state party caucuses that select the nominating convention delegates.

Whoever wins the endorsement - and it is widely expected to be Mr Walter Mondale - will receive an important boost to his candidacy at this early stage in the race. Endorsement will not only mean the support of the AFL-CIO's 14.5 million members but will also involve up to \$20m (£13m) in primary campaign funds.

Aware of the advantage which endorsement would give Mr Mondale, Senator John Glenn, his main rival for the Democratic nomination, has tried to challenge the selection process in an attempt to peel off as much rank-and-file support as possible.

He has urged unionists to keep their eye on what should be the main purpose of next year's election - getting Reagan out of the White House.

Mr Kirkland: Regaining lost influence

The choice which the trade unionists make this weekend will be as important for the labour movement as it is for the favoured candidate. Although most blue-collar workers tend to vote Democratic, the AFL-CIO has never played the same central role in the Democratic Party as the Trade Union Congress does in the British Labour Party.

In recent years, in particular, the influence which it long enjoyed in the Democratic Party has waned. The AFL-CIO, under the leadership of Mr Lane Kirkland, now wants to regain that influence by playing a king-maker's role in the 1984 race. If Mr Mondale is endorsed and then goes on to win the White House, the influence of the AFL-CIO both within the party and in the next administration would be greatly enhanced.

However there is also the danger that the organization might back the wrong horse: that Senator Glenn, who is already running a close second to Mr Mondale, might capture the party's nomination next summer.

French giving comfort to Gaddafi, says Habré

From Diana Geddes, Paris

On the eve of the opening of the tenth Franco-African summit in Vitell, Lorraine, President Mitterrand's Habré of Chad has again criticized the role of the French forces.

In an interview with *Jeune Afrique* magazine, M Habré said that French insistence that its forces would not fire a single shot against the Libyans beyond the so-called "red-line" which divides the rebel-held north from the south, was "giving

considerable comfort to Gaddafi."

The Libyan leader "might have feared that the French troops had come to help Chad recover its territorial integrity and defend its sovereignty (but) today the Libyans are virtually assured of impunity, which gives them greater confidence in continuing with their undertaking, the invasion of Chad," M Habré said.

UN summit backs bank reforms

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

More than 20 world leaders, representing pockets of ideologies and interests, have ended a two-day summit at the United Nations with an apparent meeting of minds on the need for reforming the big international financing institutions.

The summit, whose genesis came in a decision by last spring's Heads of State meeting of the NonAligned Movement in Delhi, was chaired by Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister. Her original intention had been to hold a summit with universal representation, and it remained to be seen how many of the ideas promoted in the sessions would be translated into action.

Spokesmen said that a better understanding had been reached among members of the industrial north and the developing south through informal exchanges. Representatives of the Third World had insisted that in reforming the institutions created at Bretton Woods, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, they were not seeking to overthrow the organizations' Western-dominated leadership.

All the participants agreed that, upon their return home, they would work on suggestions for reform and serve as catalysts for ideas within their own regions. There was agreement that the world economy had changed since Bretton Woods and so must the concepts and approaches that it originated.

Reporters were told of an exchange between Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada, and President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, who agreed that each belonged to the other's ideological pigeonhole. President Nyerere called Mr Trudeau a "radical" while the President of Tanzania was labelled a "convincing moderate."

Other heads of state and Governments taking part included President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus, Mr Gaston Thoen Chairman of the EEC Commission, King Hassan of Morocco, Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister of Sweden, President Mitterrand of France, and Heri Fred Sinowatz, the Austrian Chancellor. Since Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, told the UN General Assembly that his Government remained determined to recover Gibraltar.



Spartan effort: Eleanor Adams, of Nottingham, passing the Bay of Eleusis yesterday on her way to Sparta.

Thoroughly modern smog hampers Spartathlon

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The event was officially adopted by the Greek Amateur Athletics Association. It was organized by a group of British businessmen in Athens, after an RAF team ran the distance in 34½ hrs a year ago to prove that the historian Herodotus was right in saying that Phidippiades reached Sparta the day after he left Athens.

A Greek athlete named Kouras, aged 27, was in the lead 10 hours after the race began. With a record of 22 marathons all under three hours, Kouras was averaging just over seven miles an hour.

The only woman in the race is Mrs Eleanor Adams, aged 35, from Nottingham, with five world records in ultra-distance running. After 10 hours she was sixth, running abreast of Mike Newton, aged 38, who holds the world record for the 200km (120 miles) race.

Italians to tighten their belts

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Unions and employers were at one in opposing yesterday the Italian Government's austerity programme aimed at reducing public spending and inflation. The measures are now due to go before Parliament.

The Government's proposals, drawn up at a Cabinet meeting on Thursday night, foresee a cut in inflation next year from the present 16 per cent to 10 per cent. Pay increases are also to be limited to 10 per cent.

The deficit in the public sector for 1984 should, according to the plan, be limited to 90,000 bn lire (£36,250m) which would entail cuts in spending and the raising of new taxes.

The biggest cuts, amounting to about a quarter of the whole austerity package, will be made in the health and social services. Spending on education and on defence is also to be substantially reduced. There is to be a special road tax, income tax will be increased and a new tax on bank interests is to be introduced.

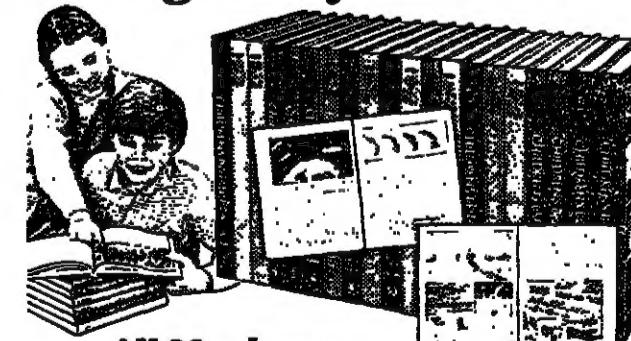
A separate measure is due to be drafted to allow owners of buildings built without planning permission to make their actions legal by payment of a fine calculated on the number of cubic yards involved.

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, described these measures as putting into practice the Government's intention of bringing order to public finance.

It has also been confirmed that taxpayers will have to make their own tax assessments for 1984 or continue to pay 92 per cent of the income tax they paid last year before the end of next month.

Final payments are due in June and so the state, in effect, collects these taxes more than six months in advance.

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THE ARTS

Opera

Wagner with a new touch of wit



Arrest Manila-style: Plainclothes police seizing Ricardo Ramos, a freelance journalist, during yesterday's demonstration.

Marcos uses heavy hand to halt business protest

From David Watts, Manila

President Ferdinand Marcos took on the business community again yesterday. His police tear gassed office workers while he warned businessmen against sabotaging the economy.

Things began happily enough. After their lunch break the office workers of the exclusive business district of Makati began shredding telephone directories and throwing the paper out of their windows in great clouds down Ayala Avenue.

Cars driving past the offices of some of the Philippines' biggest companies began sounding their horns in protest. President Marcos has ordered police to arrest drivers honking against the regime.

Shortly before 3 pm groups of casually dressed and apparently unemployed gentlemen began gathering on the street corners of Makati shouting and generally drawing attention to themselves. Some shots were fired into the air, suggesting that these jeans-clad men were not

the casual participants that they appeared to be.

Certainly Brigadier-General Ruben Escarba of the Manila Metropolitan Police force decided that they and the office workers, by now pitching ash trays and rubbish on to the heads of these people were a threat to security.

The general gave everybody 10 minutes to clear the junction of two of the Philippines' most impressive business addresses, Ayala Avenue and Paseo de Roxas, and the tear gas began to drift into the tropical afternoon. In came riot troops armed with shields and water cannons to clear a crowd which at its largest could not have numbered more than 2,000.

Brigadier-General Escarba had left well alone the protest would probably have been nothing more than a modest safety valve for the feelings of frustration against the Marcos Government. As it was, the general's visored troops chased office workers into buildings while company security guards

held the doors against the troops.

A Filipino journalist, unwise to be present without his accreditation, was beaten to the ground.

The general, who agreed that his eyesight was probably better than that of any of the foreign correspondents present, said he had used tear gas and water cannon because his men had come under small arms fire and had been hit by petrol bombs.

The government, meanwhile, detained a correspondent from Agence France-Presse, Mr Roberto Coloma on the order of the President. Mr Coloma was charged with sedition and incitement to sedition and held for some hours.

In a blow to the already suspect special commission set up by the President to investigate the assassination of Mr Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader, its chairman resigned. Officially, Justice Enrique Fernando of the Supreme Court left in order to prevent any further delay in the commission's hearings.

Iran says missiles from Iraq killed 40

Tehran (Reuters) - Forty people were killed and 255 injured when Iraq hit the western Iranian towns of Dezful and Andimeshk with long-range missiles, the Iranian national news agency IRNA reported.

It said four surface-to-surface missiles had been fired, killing 20 and wounding 135 people in Dezful, about 50 miles from the border with Iraq, and killing 20 and wounding 120 more in nearby Andimeshk.

The agency said a large number of houses and shops in the two towns had been destroyed in the attack, the latest in a long series of missile raids which have caused heavy casualties and damage in Iranian civilian areas.

The missile attacks followed a warning from Iraq on Thursday night that it would retaliate for what it said was an Iranian artillery bombardment in the north in which 16 civilians had been killed and 31 wounded.

A recent survey in the English-language newspaper *Kayhan International* said Dezful alone had been hit by missile attacks 21 times since the Gulf war broke out in September 1980. Andimeshk had been struck by rockets twice, most recently in mid-August.

Tehran rejects torture claims

Iran has rejected accusations by Amnesty International that it has been secretly torturing and killing political prisoners.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman described the allegations as "sheer lies" and said documents referred to by Amnesty were all forgeries. Amnesty put its allegations in a letter to Ayatollah Khomeini.

Total casualties from rocket and artillery attacks were 600 dead in Dezful and nearly 900 killed in Andimeshk, *Kayhan* said.

A United Nations mission which toured the Iran-Iraq war zone in May said that in each of three sites it visited in Dezful, all in residential areas, an Iraqi rocket totally destroyed an area measuring 75 yards square.

● **BAGHDAD:** Iraq accused Iran of killing 16 civilians and wounding 31 others in a shelling attack on an Iraqi town and said it would retaliate for what it called a "criminal act" (Reuters reports).

Absent from the London stage for more than 70 years, Wagner's whopping grand opera of tyranny in fourteenth-century Rome is the perfect choice to start an English National Opera series, sponsored by Norwest Holst, in which neglected works will be presented. The idea is to save money by having cheap sets and a chorus who sing in serried ranks from their parts, so needing much less preparation. The effect is to present the piece more as a case than as a fully sufficient work of musical drama: after all, in order to qualify for this series, an opera must be deemed inadequate for the regular repertoire. But *Rienzi* is indeed a case, and its slightly shoddy treatment here is realistic in a way that a totally committed production could not be.

The problems of the thing begin with its length. Opinions differ about how long an uncut performance would take, maybe seven hours. Nobody can be sure because the only complete score, Wagner's manuscript, probably perished in the flames of Berlin with its last owner, Adolf Hitler. At the Coliseum we hear about half the work, and that is enough for Nicholas Hytner, the producer, to make some striking observations about the opera that Hitler so much admired.

Hitler is reported to have been set on his path by a performance of *Rienzi* attended in Linz when he was 17, but if that was so, then Wagner's last immature opera was simply one of the lesser victims of his gigantic incomprehension. For *Rienzi* should be a warning to anyone of the meanness, vanity and wholesale destructiveness of power achieved for its own sake, and a production done up on the cheap must be pointedly emphasizes this in its simple sets of fake lavatorial marble, its elementary costumes and its meagre crowds.



Rienzi: Kenneth Woolam in the title role

Bringing the action up to date might seem a more obvious play, but Mr Hytner shows a nice wit in exposing the cult of the dictator in a slow crescendo of paraphernalia, excellently designed by David Fielding: huge portrait plaques in the style of Stalin and Mao, propaganda leaflets dropped from aloft, and awful imitations

of awful fascist monuments. Cleverest of all is the use of the second-act ballet music, or the portion of it that remains in this version, for a PT display by uniformed eight-year-olds. Perhaps at this point in the opera Wagner had himself succumbed to the charisma of his prototype totalitarian and intended a danced spectacle of

homage, but Mr Hytner's solution is very aptly and delightfully executed.

If however, Wagner was for a moment taken in by the persuasiveness of his hero - even if, as seems likely, he identified with the son of the people come to cleanse the state of Rome - he was as a musician involved in a more complex manner in the story. The first two acts, which he contemplated making into a separate opera as *Rienzi's Greatness*, march at the overbearing pace of Parisian grand opera, with bandstand music broken only by wooden recitatives. But the second part, *Rienzi's Fall*, becomes increasingly more thoroughly and interestingly composed: one even begins to hear touches of *Tannhauser* and *Lohengrin*.

Wagner's greatest sympathy, not for the last time, is with heroism in decline and death, and Heribert Esser conducts a performance which effects the modulation in tone without being too pretentious about it. *Rienzi* remains a pretty staid-minded piece, and Mr Esser makes no great claims otherwise. Nor do his singers. Wagner saw the hero as, like himself, a man of 28. Kenneth Woolam is rather more mature, but there is still a soft ring to his voice that is likeable, and clearly he has spared no effort in entering the spirit of the part. Kathryn Harries is fiery as his sister Irene, and Felicity Palmer as Adriano, torn three ways by loyalty to his noble family, love for Irene and admiration for what he takes to be *Rienzi's* political ideals, is abundantly ardent and decisive.

The production will not be revised after this month's performances, so the opportunity should be seized to see these dinosaur bones so skillfully illuminated.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Gardenia Gate

John Guare's study of an American utopian experiment of the post-Civil War period implicitly has to be called the Great American Play, and that is certainly the simplest thing to do.

If you demur, you have to pick cruelly through all the overworked imagery and win some humour in the first act (set in the Nantucket community itself) for ideas and real poetry, then change gear violently, or preferably study the script with pencil and paper, for the disillusioned second act in which the philosophical pay-offs pack the dialogue too densely to cope with.

I have to reserve judgment, although I have doubts about any play whose second half needs to be seen at least twice and whose first time is intolerable even the first time. This veteran-founded island para-

dise, where husband reads Plato's *Republic* to wife while she makes dinner from garden herbs, is an Eden whose infiltrating serpent, quite unforeseen, is a Gladstone bag of banknotes snatched up as an unconsidered trifle on its way to the destitute President Grant.

A different strand altogether, sexual jealousy over the one woman who was obliged to choose a mate among the three lusty founders and is now eating her cookie and having it, leads to murder (offstage, between the acts, with a horseshoe).

The nine years that have passed in the interval reverse the protagonist's situation from favoured and failed resident literary genius to convicted happier in his prison, printing and teaching, bribed by release to suppress his book on the Nantucket experiment by a surviving colleague with an eye on the Senate.

It is like the impotent Vanya fighting back from indecent prosperity to confront a youthful Serebryakov jailed for killing

his wife's lover, but the moral flavour is Ibsen's.

It also turns the intoxicated fools who enjoy it into Stephen and Trinculo, and the *Tempest* parallel is drawn like the heaviest "it crit" essay.

Stuart Owen's production, slow in the first act which is supposed to be Chekhovian, pulls out the emotional stops in the second: the Yeliena-figure, Lynn Webster, and the murderer, Blain Fairman, emoter challenging through an indigestible idea in every paragraph and the adulterous train conductor (Colin Bruce), a nicely played cute humorist who is nevertheless not slain early enough, seems to belong to a different play.

And now a footnote. Ruseful apologies to Stephen Hoyer, who earned an appreciative wave earlier this week as the playwright in *The Country Girl* but whose name was garbled in print.

Anthony Masters

Concert

Philharmonia/Salonon Festival Hall

Two remarkable revelations of Mahler in a month: first from Brigitte Fassbaender at the Wigmore Hall, and now from the Finnish conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia.

Mr Salonen is 25 and not yet Thursday, when the Philharmonia engaged him, on short notice to replace an indisposed Michael Tilson Thomas, had he appeared outside Scandinavia.

Salonen's, like Fassbaender's, is already a complete and wise

understanding of Mahler, one in which self-consciousness has no place and in which the use of the medium, whether voice or orchestra, for any purpose other than purely musical illumination is unthinkable. For while Mahler's Third Symphony offers us the whole world, we do not necessarily want that world to be too much with us. Where even matured Mahlerians can be sidetracked into presenting a colour frieze of creation, Mr Salonen offered a recreation of heightened receptivity, of response itself.

One recalled Mahler's words about not composing but being composed: there was an inevitability within the dizzy heterogeneity of the first movement,

its headlong terror of joy, in the attention to instrumental voicing and the inner impetus of each climax. And then there was its apotheosis in the masterfully built finale.

In between, one could cite endless examples of Mr Salonen's careful and authoritative unfolding of the score, and of the Philharmonia's readiness and virtuosity (with the women of the chorus, the boys of King's College, Wimbledon, and Linda Finnie) in translating its every nuance into sound. But it was the lucidity of his vision of the whole, his ability to clarify and also to imply, that makes Mr Salonen's speedy return to Britain imperative.

Hilary Finch

Radio

Roughly speaking

bad go of the Butterworths during that first West Country episode. Both these have combined to create the unfortunate suggestion that Vernon, with the aid of de Jongh, is sending himself up. This in turn opens up the possibility - which is very effortlessness serves to underline - that having found a serviceable vehicle (bicycle, format and style) he is now more often free-wheeling than not.

The occasional encounter has reinforced this impression: in Leicester he met a group of Indian teenagers who spoke to him with exceptional frankness about what they thought of their position in Britain - how, for instance, the Asians always get the unpleasant jobs. Suddenly, momentarily, the whole ambience of the series changed and it became obvious that Tom Vernon could, and maybe should, risk his balance on a much rougher road of human contact than he has been riding these last weeks.

What one of those roads might be was rather luridly

illustrated last week in one of the rarer events of radio - one which, though it can only have been heard by an audience within 30 miles of Birmingham, was so enterprising and so respects so successful that it deserves mention here. I am referring to the production of a 60-minute play by a BBC local station. *Detention* (September 30) was the first drama production from BBC Radio WM.

Written by ex-teacher David Calcutt specially for the station, it was set in a rough West Midlands comprehensive. When troublesome young Kevin Blower is put into detention by the staff's arch martinet and reactionary, when one of his companions is his friend, a Sikh boy, whose only offence has been to hit very hard an aggravating young racist; when the detention is presided over by a probationary teacher of doubtful vocation and hysterical disposition and when he is joined in the detention room by the female colleague in whose bed he spent the previous night, then it

should come as no surprise to anyone if things turn out ill.

Accordingly they do. Enter young racist looking to even the score. Blower jabs him with a knife before going berserk and holding both staff members hostage. Female staff member tries the "I understand you" line and is predictably told what she can do with it; male ditto utterly loses his cool, and when Blower makes a last defiant gesture - standing on a window ledge - takes the opportunity to push him out. At this point I couldn't help feeling that Mr Calcutt was writing like a man who has chosen to illustrate a history of warfare exclusively with the bombing of Hiroshima. Dreadful things go on in comprehensives, I'm sure, but *Detention* was actually very much more telling when dealing with the daily round and unpromising attitudes of school life.

That it was not destroyed by its own climax owed much to that earlier authenticity as well as to some good acting, and in the direction by Tim Manning of Radio WM who was, I suspect, lucky to be able to call on the experience of Vanessa Whitburn from the Radio Drama Unit at Pebble Mill. All in all, quite a local feather in the cap.

David Wade

Brothers Grimm tell another tale - for a price

New York (AP) - a long-overlooked story about a lost little girl will be the first addition in more than a century and a half to the 210 fairy tales collected by the brothers Grimm, a publisher says.

The manuscript, penned in 1816 by Wilhelm Grimm, opens with the familiar "Once upon a time" and tells of a girl whose guardian angel leads her to shelter with an old man, eventually revealed as St. Joseph.

When it is published by Farrar, Straus and Groux, the 2,500-word story will become the first addition to *Grimms' Fairy Tales* since the German folklorists first published the

work between 1812 and 1815.

"The new manuscript should also be of great interest to scholars," according to Mr Peter Demetz, Sterling Professor of German Languages and Literature at Yale University. The work is thought to be the only original manuscript by either Wilhelm or Jakob Grimm outside the Bodmer library in Geneva.

A New York rare-book dealer Mr Martin Bresslau, said he bought the manuscript in 1974 from the J. A. Stargardt auction house in Marlburg, West Germany. Before that, said Mr Michael di Capua, editor in chief of Farrar, Straus and Groux, the

manuscript was apparently owned by the family of a girl named Mill to whom Grimm addressed an introduction.

Mr Bresslau said he offered the manuscript for sale five years ago for \$21,000 but could find no buyers. Then he placed it in a bank where "I forgot all about it because I have quite a lot of books."

The publishing company bought the manuscript this year from the Justin Schiller dealership, to whom Mr Bresslau said he had given it on consignment for \$26,000. M. di Capua said his company purchased it for a "substantial five-figure price". The story tells of a little girl

- her name is never mentioned - whose mother fears an impending war and sends her into the woods. To repay the kindness of the old man who shelters her, the girl serves him for what which are actually 30 years. As she leaves, he reveals himself as St. Joseph, gives her a rosebud and says she will return when the flower is fully bloomed.

The guardian angel returns the girl to her mother. The next morning, "the neighbours" found them both dead; they had blessedly departed this life, and between them lay the rose of St. Joseph in full bloom, the story concludes.

Green light for bedroom 'bandit'

From Christopher Mosey Stockholm

Ulf Linde, aged 41, hit the jackpot yesterday. After a nine-month fight he persuaded the Swedish Government to let him have a "one-armed bandit" in his bedroom.

Under anti-gambling legislation, such machines are illegal in Sweden.

Ulf, who lives in the northern town of Umea, wanted the bandit "for decoration only."

After being repeatedly refused permission by various lesser authorities, he took the matter to government level and a special committee was convened to consider his plea.

One hurdle still remains, however: the machine must be inspected to make sure it can neither take nor pay out money before it is finally installed.

Pakistan throw away chances in bridge contest

From a Bridge Correspondent Stockholm

USA forged even further ahead in yesterday's two matches in the Bermuda Bowl bridge contest, scoring 49 points out of a possible 50, while Pakistan, their closest challengers, lost two relatively easy matches.

Pakistan, still in second position, seem to be throwing their chances away by team selections which puzzle most expert observers.

Round 8: USA beat CAC 24-8; Brazil beat Pakistan 16-14; New Zealand beat Indonesia 20-10; Italy beat Sweden 15-14.

Round 9: Italy beat New Zealand 17-13; CAC beat Pakistan 17-13; Sweden drew Indonesia 15-15; USA beat Brazil 25-3; Pakistan 15-17; New Zealand 13-17; Sweden 13-15; Italy 13-10; Brazil 10-8; CAC 10-1; Indonesia 1-1.

The Royal Ballet



A Wedding Bouquet

Berners/Ashton/Berners

This witty ballet charts the wedding of a shifty bridegroom to his featherbrained bride and is set to music by Lord Berners with verses by Gertrude Stein.

Voluntaries

Poulenc/Tetley/Ter-Arutanian

A vibrant neo-classical ballet to Poulenc's exciting *Concerto for Organ Strings and Percussion*.

A Month in the Country

Chopin/Lanchbery/Ashton/Trevelyan-Oman

The perfect evocation of Turgenev's atmospheric play to music by Chopin.

Royal Opera House

Oct 12, 20, 22, 28;
Nov 2, 3 at 7.30pm

Tickets £4-£19
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London WC2E 7QA

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Arts Council

THE TIMES DIARY

Children's room

As the politics of the Booker Prize continue interminably to hog the literary limelight, I sing, diffidently, of The Other Award, celebrated this week at a public house (buy your own drinks) in Covent Garden. The Other Award was inaugurated in 1975 as "an alternative children's book award for progressive books of literary merit" on the ground that the more establishment Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medals "show scant recognition of the social content of children's literature".

Typical of this year's winners is *Everybody Here*, based on a Channel 4 series, a multi-racial farrago of fun and games making the point painlessly that children come in all shapes, sizes and colours. Raj, a Sikh, explains what Diwali means; black, yellow and white faces squash themselves against windows to look equally horrible; Muhammad Nurul Hique writes a poem in Hindi (translated) about Petticoat Lane. I like it. Next year I'm going to buy them all a drink.

Birdbrains unite

British Birds, the venerable monthly magazine of ornithology, is to work a feathery variation on the *Maskerade* theme next month with the publication of a *Mystery Photographs Book* and the offer of a large cash prize for the earliest solution. The book contains photographs of 42 species and clues to the identity of a forty-third. The winner will receive at least £1,000 and, depending on the sales of the book at £4.90, a maximum of £4,300. Dr Tim Sharrock, the managing editor, says he is the only person who knows the solution. "In the event of my death, a sealed envelope will be delivered to my successor." The problem is rather like bird identification itself, he adds: "If you think that you may have solved it, you haven't. If you solve it you will know for certain you are right."

Délise de chat

Peter Potter of Antrobus, Cheshire, was served "diced cat covered in a rich sauce" at a banquet in Canton. After congratulating his hosts on the dish, he told them that his wife bred Burmese cats. What did she do with them? asked the Chinese. "She sells them." How much? "About 140 renminbi." Astonishment all round at paying £45 for a cat. "They must taste delicious!" chorused his hosts at last. Potter travels frequently in China, where he has consumed "bucketsful of sea-slugs". The cat, he says, wasn't half bad - but then it was free-range wild cat, none of your battery-farmed rubbish.

Guten Morgan all

When Bush House tried to reach its correspondent James Morgan in Washington during the recent IMF/World Bank meeting, it ran into chaos. The man from the World Service had booked into a hotel where 34 other Morgans had registered for a reunion of the entire American Morgan clan. "Morgan himself was so warmly welcomed by his long lost relatives that his despatches were informed by an emotional quality not cunnarily found in the world of economics correspondents," writes his colleague Frances Williams.

BARRY FANTONI



Golden touch

After panic scenes in Rio reminding us of Weimar Germany, Brazil's Central Bank has been forced to run newspaper advertisements denying rumours that it is issuing one-cruzeiro coins, worth a fraction of a penny, for almost £2. In a country that owes \$90,000m to international creditors, making it the world's largest debtor, people grasp at straws: in this case, a belief that the coins were minted mistakenly in white gold. Crowds have been besieging the banks daily; my correspondent does not specify whether the mobs are carping their cruzeiros around in wheelbarrows.

The mind boggles at the prospect facing Arabic Services, a London translation agency that is trying to render into Arabic P. G. Wodehouse's *The Great Sermon Bandwagon*. Leslie McLoughlin, its managing director, feels some sympathy for others who come unstuck in similar ventures: London Transport, for example, whose multilingual tourist poster extolling the delights of Green Line buses makes gibberish, he says, of the Arabic version and adds insult to injury by reproducing the Saudi flag in blue. In fact it is green, the true colour of the Prophet, no less than the buses.

PHS

Let's make councils really local

David Walker argues that present government thinking does not go far enough to solve the problems besetting the nation's ratepayers

In the coming months much parliamentary time, political energy and perhaps a drop of ministerial blood are going to be expended on rate-capping and abolition, two things which the Government seems to see as a solution to the problems in local government.

Yet the day after Islington's rates are capped and the Greater London Council ceases to exist, municipal administration in Britain will still confront the same array of questions as now: questions of cost, professional "servants" who rule their masters, public apathy, and resentment at paying the bill for services.

What will be needed then, as now, is a fundamental review covering all councils, from the lowest district to the mightiest county. It is a review that should first ask a single, simple question - one consistently ignored by the great commissions of the 1960s and one made pressing by our reduced circumstances in the 1980s: does this particular service demand collective provision?

Would civilization come to an end if, say, we repealed the law compelling Westminster council to regulate sex shops? Or removed requirements under the Estate Agents Act 1979, the Highways Act 1980, the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, and countless other Acts? The answer is probably yes.

There is an apparatus of regulation, notably on environmental health and commerce, for which the local authority is a convenient agent of the state. But beyond that there remains a host of statutes which need to be examined for their relevance, in the light of what we now know about bureaucratic costs and townhall effectiveness.

A thorough review of all council functions would produce a solid core of activity about which there would be little dispute - the maintenance of the civic infrastructure, environmental health, public protection and education, the alleviation of hardship and support of the infirm. Beyond that are some controversial but justifiable activities such as public housing, the control of land use, and fire and public safety regulation. But do we need councils as at present constituted to carry out these functions?

The answer must be that the paraphernalia of "local representative self-government" is often unnecessary and sometimes a positive obstacle to the provision of services. According to the opinion polls the public wants services; according to the small voting turnout at local elections they are not much interested in councils.

There is surely nothing sacrosanct about the present system of local government. The forms of administration could be adjusted for each service. In London, for example, it is ludicrous that social services provision is divided up between 32 boroughs, whose boundaries mean nothing either to the elderly receiving help or to the staffs assisting them. The issue in social services provision, as in education, is how best to counteract the propensity of a profession or quasi-profession (teachers or social

workers) to run itself without regard to cost or consumers. Council elections don't help provide the answer. A solution might be rigorous inspection, the devolution of budgetary powers to local "cost centres" - or a London-wide social services board, part-elected, part-appointed.

At present there is a great fear in the local government camp of what is called hybridity, which basically means that what applies to one council has to apply to them all. Why should this be? London's problems of local government are specific to the capital: there is no reason why the relatively successful administration provided by Kent County Council should not continue while the functions performed by the London Borough of Islington are more efficiently dispersed.

The task for any reformer of local government must be, in some measure, to restore power to the consumer as against the producer of the various services. The Government's plans for rate-capping and abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan counties are singularly bereft of any concern for the consumers. But steps could be taken immediately on a series of other fronts.

Why, for example, is there an annual wage round unrelated to measures of productivity and performance? Why is there no regional

variation in pay for most grades - a fact which at once destroys the basis of local (ie locally variable) government?

Action could also be taken on monitoring tools. The recently created Audit Commission for local authorities is a start, but should be linked into the grants system, so that measures of effectiveness could be used in apportioning grants.

There is everything to be said for a "mixed economy" of council services. Council employees, especially the lower grade manual workers, are often unfairly blamed for the sins of their management, who have built them into a system of semi-corrupt and wasteful practices. Liberated, they are probably often able to compete with private firms, as the experience of the Birmingham environmental health department has shown.

Lastly, diversity. In recent years all sense of experiment and progress has gone out of local government, and one reason is the depressing uniformity often imposed by "professional" standards and precepts.

If central government were to lift some of its obligations, then local authorities might be able to vary their activities. Would it be so shocking if school buses were provided in one area but in another the job were done by a private firm, and in another by a parents' cooperative? If it means anything at all, local government means the state's functions being fulfilled differently in different geographical areas.

The author's book *Municipal Empire* has just been published by Temple Smith (£8.95).

Unsimple Simon, saved from obscurity

Alan Hamilton meets the woman surprised to find herself on the short list for the Booker Prize

Anita Mason confesses surprise, not that she is the only woman author on the short list for this year's Booker Prize, but that she figures on the list at all.

"I was confident that this was a good book, and I knew that it was unusual, but I thought it so obscure in its subject matter that few other people would be interested", she says.

The book in question is *The Illusionist*, her second novel, and its obscure subject matter is a fictional exploration of the life of Simon Magus, a bit part player in the New Testament who gave his name to the sin of simony, the buying or selling of a benefice. It appeared in May of this year, to mixed reviews.

On first sight it bears little relation to her first novel, *Bethany*, set in Cornwall, where she has lived, in a cottage in a village near Liskard, for the past 14 years. But she herself sees it as a development of the same abstract idea.

"What *Bethany* is really about is how a person should behave if he is utterly convinced he is right about something, and what steps he is entitled to take to make other people agree with him. The whole point of *The Illusionist* is what St Peter is obliged to do to resist Simon the heretic and ensure the preservation of the early Christian faith. To do that, he faces the dilemma of having to act completely against his own faith and beliefs, and I found that dilemma fascinating."

She read the story of Simon, more or less by accident, some years ago, and stored it at the back of her mind, wanting to do something with it but not sure what. Years later, a chance talk with her literary agent convinced her it should become a novel. It proved to be an enormous task that consumed two and a half years.

"It was every bit as difficult as I had feared. It needed a vast amount of research into Roman politics, the Jewish religious background, the early Christian church, and first-century attitudes to magic. Simon is a charlatan and a trickster, whose party trick is being able to fly.



Anita Mason: digging deep in a quest for the heretical

Historical evidence of his life is almost non-existent, but there is plenty of legend about his aerobics, and his tricks of moving mountains and making statues talk.

In the book, Peter becomes Kepha, the Aramaic version of his name, for reasons other than those of historical accuracy. "If I had filled the book with names like Peter, and Jesus, and so on, I would have stirred too many long-standing responses and associations in the reader. I had to try to distance it from the legend so that it is read with a fresher mind."

Anita Mason, born in Bristol 41 years ago, read English at Oxford. She enjoyed it, but thought it poor preparation for creative writing.

"It developed my critical faculties to such a degree that I felt everything I wrote was dreadful. I needed a different kind of stimulus." She found that stimulus several years later when she attended a course on playwriting for radio; she has yet to

have a radio play accepted, but the course freed her creative blockage. Within a year she had set to work on *Bethany*.

For her second book, she decided to take herself off to Turkey for three months in the hope that the remoteness from all things familiar would concentrate her thinking. But she found it noisy, inconvenient and troublesome, and was soon back in her Cornish cottage. "There is something claustrophobic about Cornwall, but at least it's quiet."

She used to work in publishing in London, but eventually decided to step off the career ladder. When she first went to Cornwall, she took a job as a sub-editor on *The Cornish Times*, but left to take the plunge into full-time writing when *Bethany* was accepted. She still has to take odd jobs when the money runs out, and is currently employed on an archaeological excavation of medieval tin workings on Bodmin Moor.

Recently she contacted Cornwall

County Council and suggested they run an evening class in creative writing at Launceston. Very well, they said: you can run it. She has just held her first lesson, and found it gratifying.

Her next book is at present no more than a vague idea in her head, and may again continue the theme of the first two. What she would really like to do, she says, is write English with the clarity, elegance and precision of the greatest eighteenth-century writers. To that end she has been a voracious reader ever since she discovered Camus and T. S. Eliot at the age of 16. Before that, she says, she read only "rubbish". Enid Blyton and the William Books.

Is she a feminist? "Not really, certainly not an extreme one. What I am really interested in is heretics, those strange growths on the walls of religions, but I haven't the faintest idea why." Not a heretic herself, though, more of a careful craftsman, if on highly unusual raw material.



Akenhead: on the solver's side

all-round excellence that had kept solvers enthralled for 18 years.

"And we must never forget the Jumbo which first confronted us in 1970. What an elephantine elegance, with breadth of erudition, what excitement as the solver is led on from Shakespeare to Shaw, from Bible to Brewer, from Ancient Greece to modern science, until the onset of writer's cramp forces the pen from his fingers. How fitting that the name of Akenhead can be cited as 'A knowledge master'."

The compiling of cryptic crosswords is a very English pursuit, full of understatements, very reversals of expectation, urbane deceptions and so on. One cannot imagine a more civilized practitioner than Edmund.

John Grant

The author, who retired as Deputy Editor of *The Times* a year ago, is the new editor of the crossword.

Peter Nichols

Venture into the Babel belt

My wife is learning her native tongue. Only a fifth of her race can speak it and most of them speak English as well, by which I mean both "also" and "with the same fluency". At school she learnt only to count to 10 and pronounce place names so she is now making a late start with a copy of *Teach Yourself Welsh* bought secondhand in Ludlow, a fortress town built to keep the Taffs at bay. Not many miles west, you can hear girls at supermarket check-outs chatting in Welsh under placards offering "2p off beans".

My wife can tell a mere Welsh accent from a Welsh-speaker's, a refinement of the game all the British play of placing people by the way they talk. Now that Manx is extinct, only three such languages survive - Welsh and the two Gaels - and it's only a matter of time for them. True dialects are going, too. Radio and television earn their characters by off-peak regional variations but even local news is read in Standard English voices.

My natural accent is the accidental burr of Bristol, a glottal version of Somerset, as Scouse is of Lancashire. Are they urbanized rustic or have they come about because both cities stand on estuaries with foggy climates that close the throat? Everyone in my childhood spoke Bristolian without knowing it and I had to learn Actor's Posh when I went to drama school in my twenties.

My father was a Londoner so I was already halfway to Standard English, a version of Cockney spoken by few but imitated by most and taken by foreigners to be typical English speech. The short "a", for instance, is pronounced "ah", making laugh "lahf" whereas the rest of us say "laff". The well-known "oo" belongs to both Poet Laureate and East End villain, while the rest of Britain says "off".

Speech in Britain is more divisive than schools and an "ee" before the diphthong "ah-oo" making "town" into "teeown" was as fatal for Edward Heath as the three-day week. It has been said that Posh was developed early in the last century as a way of making the Hanoverian monarchs feel at home. Germans have come back with not much sound upper-class in such phrases as "not too bad".

Helmut Schmidt and Malcolm Muggeridge show there may be something in it. Of course, royals have evolved since the early Georges, the modern female line favouring the Mitford drawl, the males buzzing indistinctly, both resulting from the upper-class view that it's bad form to move lip or jaw. An American film star told me of the proud moment when he was presented to the Queen and Prince Philip after a premiere.

"Here was a thousand years

of history talking to me and goddammit", he said, "I couldn't understand a single word they said. I just kept grinning and nodding, hoping I was reacting right."

To be fair, Americans are lazy listeners. They know three British accents - Cockney (Stanley Holloway), Posh (Julie Andrews) and Scouse (John Lennon). In one of my plays in the United States, an actress used a dialect halfway between London and Liverpool - not Birmingham, but a weird identical that might have come from a malfunctioning word processor. Imitating voices is not a national obsession there as it is with us. In a country where everyone is trying to feel at home, mocking accents is frowned on. Chatting to each other on the beach of a lake in Minneapolis, we were approached by an inquisitive young man.

"Hi - you tell me the time?"

"Yes. Five and twenty pahst nah-see."

"Five and twenty past? OK. You folks from out of town?"

"From England."

"England. Where is that? Europe some place?"

"An island off Europe, yes."

"And do they speak English there?"

"Yes."

"Well, you sure speak it well for a European."

"Thank you."

"You're welcome."

He was not the only Minnesotan who failed to connect England with English.

English bounces back at us in Aussie (Clive James butch and Edna Everage geezel), babu Indian, the prim Dutch of South Africa, grandiose black of Zimbabwe, self-assured gloom of the Caribean and Brixton. No wonder we all mimics. It's more fun than stamp-collecting (and cheaper) to tell the squeezed Scottish vowels of Canada from the mandarin monotones of Boston. Anyway, what's the alternative? We watch the punch-ups our language suffers as Japanese, Russian and European take it - one after another - up a dark alley and beat hell out of it. But at least they're trying. Since Henry the Fifth, British soldiers spending years in France have come back with not much more than Parleyvoov and Wipers.

I hope my wife perseveres with her Welsh. After all, Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore, a Cambridge graduate, had to learn Cantonese when he came to power. Not that anyone in his right mind would neglect his English, once acquired. Barry Humphries, when told of the decision to teach Indonesian in Australian schools at the expense of the mother tongue, smiled warily.

"How sensible, yes. And what a wealth of Indonesian literature awaits the poor dears!"

Allan Massie

Facts are expendable, comment is all

Three farmers, an Englishman, an Irishman and a Frenchman, settle themselves into a Strasbour restaurant. Strasbourg, we are at once reminded, is the town where they stuff geese for foie gras. Our farmers are obviously about to do themselves extremely well. At our expense, we are told. This is the opening of a *Panorama* report: "Farmers we can't afford."

Now, in these journalistic programmes, the BBC is presumably aspiring to the same degree of seriousness and authority as a quality newspaper. Yet it is astonishing how seldom it achieves that level, producing instead work that is tedious and cheaply sensational. No doubt this may in part be ascribed to the lack of judgment or the bias of those who make the programme; it is also something inherent in the medium.

Television can make a case. Indeed yes; it is essentially an advocate's medium. The shocking image hits the eye more powerfully than its verbal equivalent. The picture of a bruised face or a pig confined in a machine stays in the memory and works on the imagination more keenly than words. Yet the case television makes so often depends on just this: it relies on evoking an emotional response rather than on a logical presentation of facts. It is advocacy in the old-style ham fashion of a Marshall Hall: "Gentlemen of the jury, can you resist the appeal of this abandoned widow?"

The wail, in this farming programme, was the taxpayer or the consumer, possibly even British industry. All suffered, we were told, from the indulgence granted the farmer. We saw surpluses being stacked in warehouses, trees crashing to the ground as land was cleared for grain, and of course, our three Strasbour farmers tucking into their food and wine "agriculture", proclaimed Richard Lindley, the programme's author and presenter, in unctuous tones, "is taking the capital British industry desperately needs."

In the absence of two-way TV one cannot ask Mr Lindley to explain how money from Common Agricultural Policy contributions (which in fact amount to a very small percentage of national income) might be diverted to industry. One cannot ask him either why he thinks banks are happy to lend to agriculture but not to other subsidized industries, and to challenge the conclusion that it is because farmers deliver the goods they are contracted to produce.

A programme like this *Panorama* report demands analysis, all the more because, it is not, I think, generally seen to be making an advocate's case. The assumption remains that television speaks ex cathedra, that a programme-maker,

even Mr Lindley, delivers tablets from Mount Sinai. Not so: more and more, TV journalism belongs to the feature page (like this piece), and can claim no authority beyond that of the arguments advanced.

Here that was very little. How much respect can you accord to a programme which tells you (disparagingly) that "the average farmer expects a larger income than an army captain or a university lecturer"? So what? That presumably means his income is smaller than a colonel's or professor's. What one would like to know is how it compares with a publican's or a bookie's, but here Mr Lindley is silent.

The principal case against the CAP is that it encourages surpluses. (Better, one would have thought, than deficiencies, which it eliminates. "Butter", the reporter told us, "is expensive, and as the consumer rejects it." No doubt, some do, though it goes fast enough in the supermarkets I frequent, and my own family gets through a few pounds of the stuff a week.)

There is, of course, a case against the creation of surpluses and against the way the CAP works in detail, but it is not a case that can be convincingly argued with this sort of spatter-gun technique. It is not made more cogent by the assumption that there is an unlimited supply of cheap food outside the EEC by the refusal to recognize that a principal purpose of the system of guaranteed prices is the elimination of shortages. And it is not helped by ignoring the element of subsidy to the consumer, the way in which the supplementing of farmers' income in this manner makes a choice of food more widely, and in fact cheaper, available than would be the case if we relied on a free market.

But then this programme was not in the business of serious argument. It was an expression of prejudice and incitement to more. How else explain the intrusion of this year's anti-farming grouse, stubble-burning? There's no subsidy for that, and it was not relevant to the theme - farmers we cannot afford.

The BBC has long lost its reputation for objectivity, but in programmes like *Panorama* it has not abandoned its claim to authority. Mr Lindley can obviously write what he pleases about farmers, however incompetently. But *Panorama* has been the BBC's current affairs flagship for so long that it is an unsuitable place for bias.

At some point the BBC - and the independent companies, for they are no better in this respect - should reconsider their classification of programmes, and aim for a clearer distinction than exists at present between news and comment; between the objective and informative programme and the piece of advocacy.

A well-mannered Kedah feud

(An 'ouch' anagram (8, 6, 8) devised by a novice to confound our readers)*

Within a few weeks Edmund Akenhead will be able to have a go at *The Times* crossword for the first time for nearly 20 years. He has been deprived of this basic Englishman's right since 1963, when he became its editor.

Now he is retiring on his seventieth birthday, and once the stockpile of meticulously edited puzzles handed over to his successor is finished he will at last be on equal terms - at least notionally - with his readers. There will be some happy exceptions: he will continue to set three puzzles a month himself and to mark the principal holidays of the year with his commodities Jumbo puzzles, which must call for skills of the quantity surveyor as well as those of the wordsmith.

From Torquemada onwards the crossword compiler has been commonly represented as a fiend or torturer. But a more benign or pacific person than Edmund one cannot imagine.

He went to school at Rugby, where he was on the classical side. In 1936 he qualified as a solicitor and joined the family firm in Newport.

During the war he was for a time an instructor in gliding at an RAF school, and after the war took a legal post in the Colonial Service, where he stayed until independence.

For ten years he set a weekly puzzle in the *Tanganyika Standard*, starting with a Coronation puzzle in 1953. The width of his knowledge was nicely exemplified by his half-hour performance of *Illusions* - he is a life-long member of the Magic Circle - at the opening of a new

police station, when he conducted all his patter in Swahili.

As he wrote in his introduction to the *Penguin Book of The Times 50th Anniversary Crossword* (1980): "Every cryptic crossword compiler is constantly exercising a kind of mental sleight-of-hand, the chief weapon in his (or her) armoury being misdirection, as it is with a conjuror."

After returning to Britain to become a partner in a firm of solicitors in Essex, he was asked in 1965 to take on the editorship of *The Times* crossword, in succession to Jane Carton, on a part-time basis. It soon became a full-time post. He took to heart her advice that the editor must be fair to the solver, and indeed must err on the side of leniency. There should always be some easy clues, they both believed - a chance for the dog to see the rabbit - which today often take the form of quotations.

Oddly, one of the difficult things about crossword editing is to know which puzzles will prove easy and which difficult. Edmund is never surprised to find the competitors at a regional final making mince-meat of a puzzle he thought would be hard, or vice-versa.

Punch-drunk solvers may find it difficult to accept that Edmund Akenhead has indeed been on their side, but any of the 10 or so current crossword-actors have good cause to know it. Many a sadistic deception has been turned down as too difficult, or because someone some-

where could claim that it contained a scintilla of inequity. Obscure words or unusual forms are frowned on, and inaccuracies infallibly detected.

One ingenious fellow, wishing to indicate that the letter "a" had to be removed from a word, based his clue on S/TORN/AWAY, in the Isle of Lewis. Disallowed, said the People's Tribune. It's spelt Stormoway!

When Edmund has edited a puzzle he sends the setter a detailed explanation of his corrections, which have a splendidly magisterial ring, varying from "Ouch" (very severe rebuke for a false anagram) to "Nice" or even "V. nice" for a clue that tickles him. Here are some of his Johnsonian put-downs:

● Surely moratoria are not debt seasons for debtors, are debt collectors? One says "the close season for pheasants", doesn't one?

● Lamprey does not equal eel. Anything defined in the dictionary as eel-like cannot be an eel, or it wouldn't say "like an eel".

● This could only be a crossword clue - it reads too unnaturally to be anything else!

No wonder Mr Roy Dean of the Foreign Office, the winner of the first *Times* Crossword Championship in 1970, entitled his farewell speech to Edmund at the final of the championship in London last month "Homage to the Headmaster".

Edmund, he said, had refined the crossword into a form of literary art and imposed his personal stamp on it. He had encouraged his compilers to develop qualities of humour, dexterity, fairness, intelligence and

Foreword Edmund Akenhead

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ANSWERING BACK

"We must deal with the Soviet Union not as we would like it to be, but as it is," said the Prime Minister in her Washington speech on Thursday. Quite so. But we must also deal with the Soviet Union not as it would like us to be, but as we are. Mrs Thatcher warned the West against projecting its own morality onto the Soviet leadership. That was the key element in her speech. She was touching on a mistaken assumption which has been one of the unfortunate products of the period of détente. Soviet reaction to her speech, and speeches like it, tends to derogate the use of strong language on the grounds of its bellicosity, while ignoring the recurring bellicosity of similar Soviet speeches. Much western commentary makes the same criticism. It reveals a curious double standard which accepts that it is unexceptional when Soviet rhetoric is challenging and aggressive but wrong when the West replies in kind. It is argued rather patronisingly, that Soviet leaders should be allowed their rhetoric because it stems from a basic feeling of insecurity, and that they should not be aggravated by any kind of counterpoint.

The Soviet Union, as it is, is a power and a system which has been engaged in a continuous and conscious policy of international expansion. Its tools of expansion go beyond the methods of "peaceful co-existence" once described by Mr Khrushchev. They include verbal and physical aggression on

the Soviet Union's allies, neighbours and any other party unable to defend itself verbally or physically from such an assault. Its methods include overt and covert means, since the Soviet leadership has shown since the Russian revolution that what it cannot achieve openly, it will try to achieve by subversion, propaganda or just plain intimidation. It hopes to achieve the gains of war, without running the risks of war, by the simple device of calling it peace.

The western alliance has achieved the physical security of its members against this assault for thirty-five years, but no verbal security to go with it. We are and have been in a war of words, as the Prime Minister said, for the hearts and minds of societies which are still free. In this war the Soviet leadership maintains its ideological intention to prosecute the struggle against the enemies of socialism, while the western societies - the intended victims of this conflict - are not supposed to answer back.

The period of détente came to be seen in the West as a suspension of hostilities while to Soviet eyes it was never anything of the kind. The Soviet leadership never made any secret of the fact that the conflict between the systems was to continue, but by other means. The West, however, decided that détente meant that the conflict was over. Western leaders gave up the struggle. They gave it up politically, they gave it up morally. What other conclusion can be

drawn from a period in which it remained acceptable for the Soviet leadership and all its communist affiliates in the West to continue the ideological attack on western society, but not acceptable for western society to answer back in kind, even by the simple assertion of the positive case for free and democratic societies?

The significance of Mrs Thatcher's speeches on the Soviet Union, and some of those more articulate statements by the Reagan administration, particularly by Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the US Ambassador to the UN, is that this imbalance is now being corrected. There is a new sense of self-confidence in the correction. The speeches are unapologetic and robust. They indicate a determination not to let the argument for freedom go by default. It has gone by default for so long because it has been unfashionable to suggest that we should base our policy on an assumption that our approach to the Soviet Union should be the same as the Soviet approach to us.

It has been said that the best way to counter physical intimidation is to speak softly and carry a big stick. But an ideological assault cannot be met with silence. We may know that tyrannies have no respect for the truth and are based on what Boris Pasternak described as "the inhuman reign of the lie". But the big lie, much repeated, tends to take root. Once it has done so, it is too late to answer back.

IT IS ALL IN THE BREEDING

The future success of British racing depends on a continuous supply of top class thoroughbreds from British studs. The British bloodstock industry is indeed the plinth of the column whose crown is the season's classic races and the other Group I events which attract leading horses from Europe and the United States to compete against British runners. This week's sales at Tattersalls in Newmarket have attracted attention for the high prices paid for top class yearlings. There is a danger, however, that the few extravaganzas will give a wholly distorted impression of the basic economics of British bloodstock.

In fact this year there are signs of underlying health in British bloodstock, and not just at the top end of the market. That has been matched by evidence that many of the best horses are now being bought to stay, race, then hopefully breed, in Britain. That is a welcome development after some years in which British breeders seemed unable to compete with the big money available from elsewhere. Nearly half of the highest paid yearlings sold at the Keeneland Select Summer Sales this year, for instance - often the progeny of horses which had previously been bought from Britain - will

now return to race and breed in this country.

All that can only be to the advantage of the racing industry, but it does not happen by chance. Better racing, with higher class fields, will only continue to attract foreign money if the British bloodstock industry can provide the initial quality, which then attracts foreign investment in British racing. The benefits flow to breeders, agents, trainers, jockeys and stable staff.

However, as Lord Manton, the Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, pointed out in his speech at the St Leger dinner, these welcome developments have more to overcome than mere chance. In racing, the competition is fierce, global and continuous. The key to meeting it, and to survival for the racing industry, is an environment which encourages the bloodstock industry.

The decline in the number of new foals is not necessarily a serious development provided that the quality can be maintained from fewer studs. Nevertheless the direct competition from Ireland and France has the advantage of a more favourable VAT regime and, in the case of Ireland, a virtual tax holiday for breeders. In Britain, by contrast,

stud farms not only suffer from VAT, but are also threatened with the imposition of rates for stud farm buildings, and a refusal by the Inland Revenue to recognise that stud farming is farming, comparable to producing, say, a pedigree herd of beef cattle or sheep. It should thus qualify for the same capital tax relief as other agricultural enterprises, both with regard to land and animals.

On what basis, does the tax man determine that a broodmare is different in kind from a prize pedigree cow? In taxation language, how is a stallion so different from a champion bull? These distinctions smack of an official attitude which must spring from the idea that stud farming is a hobby for gentlemen. That could not be more wrong today. The Revenue must surely recognise that stud-farming is the essential basis for the future growth and profitability of the entire racing industry, which last year provided £272,000,000 in revenue for the Exchequer, of which less than £19,000,000 was returned through the betting levy. That kind of vitality can only be maintained by a more sensible approach to the taxation of stud farming than we have yet seen unflinched by the headline treatment given this week to the highest bidders at the sales.

THAT ONCE THROUGH TARA'S HALLS...

When the Garda Síochána finds Shergar, whom it has been looking for for nine months, there will be no problem about restoring him to his owners. There may be a problem for the insurers, who have been paying out, but not for the police, who know which his stable is. But when they find the Irish crown jewels, for which they have been looking for rather longer, matters will not be so simple.

The Gardaí took on the search as part of the unfinished business of the Royal Irish Constabulary. There is a flurry in the file from time to time; as now, with metal detectors at work in the foothills of the Dublin mountains. It is not so long ago that another metal detector turned up a ninth-century silver chalice at Derrynaflin, the best example of early Christian art to come to light in Ireland this century. So who knows?

The Republic of Ireland has no present use of its own for the Queen. It might be thought to follow that it would have no use for her jewels either, which could be restored to her in a simple ceremony with the compliments of President Hillery. But it is no surprise to find that objects

described as "Irish crown jewels" are of ambiguous status. The facts concerning them do not in any simple way determine what ought to be done with them.

William the Fourth in 1831 commanded that the Irish crown jewels be made into a resplendent badge, star and collar for the Grand Master of the Most Illustrious Order of Saint Patrick (a sort of green Garter). It was from the custody of that order in Dublin Castle that the insignia were stolen seventy-six years ago in circumstances that showed "a strange want of a sense of responsibility and in fact deliberate carelessness" in those concerned, according to the commission that inquired into the loss.

The jewels, supposing they turn up, cannot be returned to the Order of St. Patrick, for the order is defunct. Its last knights expired with the Duke of Windsor and the late Duke of Gloucester. Its revival was mooted for the purpose of honouring the Irish generals who won the second great war for the United Kingdom, but the proposal did not find favour,

least of all with the Irish government.

So, with the monarch having conveyed the jewels a century and a half ago to an order of chivalry that has now vanished, there may be no better claimant than the finder, a state that was born out of anger and shame at the royal purposes the jewels once served. The Crown would be unlikely to object; though if it did, there are useful precedents for dealing with the disputed possession of Anglo-Irish property in the remains of Sir Roger Casement and the pictures of the Lane bequest.

The Irish authorities might be pleased to display the jewels as relics of a dead past. Its reappearance in Dublin would stir none of the emotion that surrounded the return of the Holy Crown of Saint Stephen to Budapest five years ago. The Irish symbolism of this treasure is decidedly negative. Even triumph is out of place. When Malachi wore the collar of gold, he had won it from the proud invader. Finding lost property is not the same thing. It is only as a valuable curiosity that the Irish crown jewels will reappear, if they do.

Future of Hongkong

From Sir William Keswick
Sir, The most important thing to remember about Hongkong is that it is a safe place of commerce, built up over the last 100 years by British merchant adventurers and nimble-witted Chinese.

The continuation of this "place of commerce" is what both sides want. It suits both. Politicians and bureaucrats are not ideal negotiators in the delicate matters such as stable trade, rates of exchange and "face". Fourteen years seem quite long enough for a solution to emerge for

the future, acceptable to the hardworking Chinese people and also to the existing trading community. They are apt to know what they want.

Yours faithfully,
W. J. KESWICK,
Theydon Priory,
Theydon Bois, Essex.

Tanzanian economy

From Professor Lord Bauer and Professor Basil Yamey
Sir, Two feature articles in *The Times* (September 19 and 20) review the sharp decline of the Tanzanian economy and of its preponderant agricultural sector over the last

decade of so. This review confirms similar reports in other publications (for example, *International Herald Tribune*, October 23, 1982).

But another recent article in *The Times* (September 9, 1983) quotes World Bank statistics to the effect that in the 1970's GDP rose by 4.9 per cent per year and agriculture at the same rate. No doubt other readers share our difficulty in reconciling the evident reality with published statistics.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BAUER,
BASIL YAMEY,
London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.

Sailing boats on wrong tack?

From Sir Eric St Johnston

Sir, The much-publicised contest for the America's Cup has at last concluded, but there are already suggestions that there will be a similar contest in four years' time. May I suggest that a better solution would be that after Australia has had its well-deserved moment of triumph the cup should be decently buried in Newport Sound and a firm decision taken that there should be no further international races for 12-metre yachts?

It has been reported that Mr de Savary has spent £5m sterling to pay for the British attempt to be a formal contender and there is no doubt that other contenders have spent just as much if not more.

Now that the contest is over these spectacular racing machines have, to all intents and purposes, become expensive, useless toys.

It would, I suggest, be much more worth while and do the youth of England much more good if the money had instead been spent on the building and endowing of two more sail training ships of the type of the Sir Winston Churchill and the Malcolm Miller, for this would have enabled several thousand young men and women to have the opportunity for years to come to savour the excitement of deep-water sailing and give them an opportunity to develop their spirit of adventure and to stretch themselves both physically and mentally.

If each country which has built a 12-metre had also similarly built sail training ships there could have been a continual and valuable interchange of young people sailing in training ships owned by the different nationalities.

I do not in any way denigrate the ability, physical fitness and dedication of the crews in the recent races, but they are a favoured few and we should be thinking of the many.

Yours faithfully,

T. E. ST. JOHNSTON,
Old Swan House,
Great Rissington,
Gloucestershire,
September 29.

From Mr David Laurent Giles

Sir, Many years ago, as a schoolboy, I found in my father's private bookcase a book describing some of the experiments of William Froude, with planks of various proportions of length and width, which have become the basis of what are today described, by certain "experts", as the "laws" of naval architecture.

My father, a leading yacht designer of his day, finding me reading this book, was extremely annoyed and reminded me that he was "a designer of yachts, not of planks".

The work of men like Ben Lexcen, David Hollo and others continues to demonstrate that the forces which confine and restrict the passage of a hull through the water are almost as much of a mystery today as they have ever been; that innovation in the design of hulls is as much a matter of art as of science; and that the humble model experiments of the sailor-artists are as likely to lead to successful innovation in hull design as all the "laws" or the arrogance - of the mathematicians and their computers.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GILES,
Thornycroft, Giles and Associates Ltd.,
The Embankment,
Barnbridge,
Isle of Wight,
September 28.

Widows' pensions

From Mr Donald Reid

Sir, On September 17 you published an article by Ian McDonald entitled "What widows can claim in pensions" from our national insurance scheme.

A widow with no children under the age of 40, whose deceased husband had regularly paid contributions, gets no pension after the initial 26 weeks of widowhood. The widow has to be 50 years or over before she receives the full benefit of £32.85 per week.

The purpose of insurance schemes is to provide financial support for those most in need, the funds being made available from contributions paid by the more fortunate. It appears that our national insurance scheme fails to support those hardest hit by the tragedy of early bereavement.

Yours truly,
D. J. REID,
43 East End Lane,
Ditchling,
Sussex,
September 20.

Forestry policy

From Dr J. M. Fletcher

Sir, Others in your columns have rightly stressed the need for treating forestry as an asset able, with an enlightened policy, to benefit the country in the future. Derelict woodlands, mainly in private ownership and not far from urban communities, offer now the chance to provide employment for the young.

For British forests appropriate facts and strategy were given in 1980 in the report of Professor Bowman's panel convened by the Centre for Agricultural Strategy. The area of unproductive woodland and scrub, mainly in the lowlands and of broadleaved trees, is 14 per cent of the total afforested, and 25 per cent of that is in private ownership. It amounts to about 1,200 square miles, the size of a typical English county.

It was estimated that about two

Church's involvement in politics

From Dom Raphael Appleby, OSB

Sir, I suppose it is the natural refuge of a guilty conscience that when governments, or people with influence, are engaged in promoting activities that are hard to reconcile with the message of the Gospel (such as the nuclear arms race, trading in weaponry, supporting an institutional or national greed that ever increases the gap between the rich and the poor) they should attempt to silence or discredit any priest who challenges them.

So Roger Scruton (feature, September 27), who would seem to be part of a concerted attempt by this Government and its supporters to deny the right and duty of priests and bishops to speak out against injustice and oppression, by claiming that such matters, being "secular", are not their concern. Try telling that to the Old Testament prophets!

To this Roger Scruton adds a smear technique, suggesting first that the 93 elected priests at the National Conference of Roman Catholic Priests were doubtfully representative, since there are over 5,000 priests in England and Wales (I don't know where that leaves the House of Commons), and secondly that the assembly was "vociferous" and therefore unreliable.

A more unconvincing conference it would be hard to find (one very distinguished religious affairs correspondent described it to me as "dull").

Yours etc,
RAPHAEL APPLEBY,
National Co-ordinator,
Catholic Chaplains in Higher Education,
Downside Abbey,
Stratton On The Fosse, Bath.

From Lord Lytton
Sir, It is probable that I am only one of the vast majority of Catholics who do not like "the persistence of pulp politics" (article, September 27) and the efforts being made to transform our Church into a secular debating society.

Your contributor, Roger Scruton, in implying this effort as a main theme of the latest national conference of Roman Catholic priests, writes, "It cannot be said with any certainty that the assembly was representative". In so far as I am able to measure it, the impact in this parish is a tepid exercise by less than 2 per cent. From sources other than this parish I learn that the method of financing this exercise is a "pea-in-the-shoe", or perhaps a "hair shirt" for many a good parish priest. It is therefore interesting to read your contributor's report that the clergy

attending were 93 out of 5,000... that is, around 2 per cent.

Whilst I have no wish to trumpet a Cardinal with a Pope I have the impression that politicians are officially banned from the pulpits and the clergy from the hustings. The risk of disregarding the official line is not only that we are being led into fruitless and time wasting study groups but that top clergymen either openly challenge the defence programme of the free world or at least sponsor those who do. I wish it were otherwise, for I am a Catholic politician whose profession is defence.

Yours faithfully,
LYTTON,
House of Lords.

From Mr Mark Gore

Sir, Mr Roger Scruton's article of September 27, as with all statements of ideology masquerading as the truth, fails to mention the one concept it is trying to evoke: responsibility. I suggest that encouraging ritualistic behaviour can have the effect of deadening peoples' sense of national and civic responsibility ("neighbourhood organisations, trade unions, local government and Parliament"), especially when it is suggested by the likes of Mr Scruton that these rituals (and "obedience") are the truest expression of faith.

I agree with Mr Scruton's assertion that one of the strengths of the traditional Roman Catholic Church was that "it offered a definite and authoritative system of answers to life's questions"; in fact one of the conceivable results of this "strength" was the alliance between Mussolini's fascist administration and the very same Roman Catholic Church.

Perhaps Mr Scruton should go and ask certain Roman Catholic priests in Central and South America about their faith and conception of responsibility in the world, rather than using his column to give free publicity to his friends from Peterhouse.

Yours sincerely,
MARK GORE,
Wadham College, Oxford.

From Mr D. J. Wilson

Sir, Those Christians who believe that it is better to prevent slaughter than hang about waiting to bury the dead will be accustomed to Roger Scruton's "communist" jibe, but to add heresy and egoism to their sins smacks of overkill.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. WILSON,
18 Belvedere Road,
Blackpool, Lancashire.

PEN in Poland

From the President of The English Centre of International PEN

Sir, At a time when Mr Scargill has been defending Polish "socialism" your readers may be interested to learn the latest news of the Polish Centre of International PEN.

Until recently, although the offices of Polish PEN had been sealed and the organisation itself suspended, its officers were still able to communicate with other PEN centres and to distribute the money, food parcels and medicines sent by them for Polish writers in distress.

On August 19, however, the authorities decided to "revive" the Polish centre. To this end they created a new board, headed by four non-writer bureaucrats, and announced that these Government nominees would run the Polish centre until a new board had been elected.

This action has been taken regardless of the fact that the Polish centre, like every other centre of PEN, is strictly non-governmental and that its board can be dissolved

only by International PEN or by its existing members.

We regard this not merely as a serious threat to the continuing existence of the Polish PEN centre (obviously International PEN could not accept a centre not regularly constituted) but as a dangerous example to those other totalitarian countries in which centres still manage to exist.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS KING, President, English Centre.
International PEN.
SYBILLE BEDFORD, Vice-President,
ISAIAH BERLIN, Vice-President,
PETER ELSTON, Vice-President,
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE, Vice-President,
RUS MURDOCH, Vice-President,
HAROLD PINTER, Vice-President,
TOM STOPPARD, Vice-President,
ANTONIA FRASER, Vice-Chairman,
JOSEPHINE PULLEN-THOMPSON, General Secretary,
LETITIA COOPER,
STORM JAMESON,
ROSAMUND LEHMANN,
KATHLEEN NOTT,
V. S. PRITCHETT,
STEPHEN SPENDER,
English Centre of International PEN,
7 Dilke Street, Chelsea, SW3.

Loyalties at the BBC

From Sir Robert Lusty

Sir, I have not as yet read Michael Tracey's biography of Sir Hugh Greene, but I would like quickly to share Sir Hugh's doubts about certain aspects of the author's understanding of his conversations with the late Sir Charles Curran.

"It may all seem distant and academic now... yet the question of where the key loyalties lay at moments of crisis are essential stuff," writes Alan Franks in his article, "The making of a Hugh-dunnit" (September 23). In this particular instance it is a matter of high importance.

At that relevant time it was my privilege to be Lord Normanbrook's vice-chairman on the Board of Governors and in this capacity I had, of course, many private talks with him, many of them on the subject of Sir Hugh Greene, during whose period as Director General I had been a governor for most of the time.

It had been an exciting and eventful period, during which Sir Hugh had been, in his phrase, "opening the windows of Broadcast-

ing House." It had not been easy and one of the essential elements was that Sir Hugh, in his enthusiasm, should admire, respect and submit to the authority of the Chairman and his board.

There was exceptional accord between Sir Hugh and the Chairman, Sir Arthur Forde, whose retirement through illness might well have proved calamitous had his successor been other than Lord Normanbrook. Fortunately, with him Sir Hugh found himself, if not as personally close, equally in sympathy and understanding.

Lord Normanbrook certainly became aware that the Director General needed careful handling. He was not an easy man nor always a tactful one and sometimes made pronouncements on BBC matters which would better have come from the Chairman. But of his brilliance and of his leadership there were no doubts and I do not think that at any time was the thought in Lord Normanbrook's mind that the moment had come for a change.

I recall discussing at one talk what might happen should Hugh be run over by the proverbial bus. "How about Curran?" I asked.

Normanbrook was aghast. "Curran", he exclaimed, "Curran is a Roman Catholic and the BBC could never have such as its DG."

Nor do I think that Lord Normanbrook, the epitome of punctilio, would have discussed so sensitive a point with even so senior a member of the BBC as its Secretary.

The importance and irony of this point within the context of history is to remember that within a short time Lord Normanbrook had died, Lord Hill had been translated from the chair of the opposing ITA to that of the BBC, Sir Hugh Greene had ceased to be its Director General and changes were made to ensure, in the minds of many, that neither the BBC nor any subsequent Director General would again experience the climate that had served it so well in fulfilling its great purposes of public service broadcasting.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LUSTY,
The Old Silk Mill,
Blockley, Gloucestershire.

An abiding sense of heritage

From the Secretary General of the Heritage Trust

Sir, I would like to refer to Sir Roy Strong's article in *The Times* of September 24, "Taking the age out of heritage", and wish to point out that in its normal interpretation, at least, the word "heritage" is used to describe something of a certain intrinsic value, which is worthy of being passed on to subsequent generations as a true expression of a people's highest traditions and aspirations.

It cannot be applied, in my opinion, to just anything and certainly not to whatever has been produced in our own time, without inspiration or any attempt to comply with the basic ethical and aesthetic standards of our society that are an integral part of our cultural identity.

In view of the ravages inflicted to the architectural heritage of most Western countries in the 1960s, to which one can add the grave uncertainties of the present times, I cannot help feeling that people's resulting, and by now instinctive, addition to the preservation of the past is a very salutary symptom indeed! It also proves that the average person, thank goodness, has a natural preference for quality and is far more discriminating in his choice than is generally recognised.

This does not mean that one should not appreciate what is of value and belongs to our own age. However, whether in the long run it will be accepted as part of our natural heritage is a decision which, in most cases, must be left to the objectivity of posterity. The test, as in history, will be one of time.

Far more important is the acceptance, nowadays, that one's feelings about conservation should really be extended beyond regional and even national borders to include whatever is of real value to the basic quality of life of the human race as a whole.

The problem, as I see it, is not the addition to heritage, as described by Roy Strong, but simply that if too localised in character it tends to lose all sense of historic vision.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. CALABRINI,
Secretary General,
The Heritage Trust,
86 Vincent Square, SW1,
September 26.

Rates reform

From Sir Thomas Padmore

Sir, The Chief Executive of Swale Borough Council says in his letter which you publish today (September 28): "Local income tax would be an entirely viable alternative to rates, needing only a computer and a programme for its introduction".

Mr White's faith in his computer is remarkable. Is his machine really capable of solving the problems involved in this tax, which many (including, I suspect, HM Government) regard as wholly insurmountable - viz, the designation and definition of the incomes and the persons (individual or corporate) to be liable to the tax and of the local authority who in any particular case will be entitled to levy it; and, when those things have been decided, the creation of the machinery whereby the incomes to be assessed will be ascertained and the tax levied and collected?

Yours faithfully,
T. PADMORE,
39 Cholmeley Crescent,
Highgate, N6,
September 28.

Relatively speaking

From Dr H. M. Smallwood

Sir, How did Dr McGlashan, whose article you published on September 24, get the notion that modern science is abandoning objectivity? Was it possibly from reading references to the observer in accounts of relativity theory? But the observer of relativity has no "psyche"; in fact, he may as well be an instrument.

I may add that relativity insists that neither tears nor prayers can alter the speed of light in a vacuum or stop momentum from being conserved.

Dr McGlashan thinks that there is evidence of harm resulting to patients from the "strictly objective and impersonal attitude" exemplified in the double-blind test. But his belief that no two patients are comparable prohibits him from producing any evidence at all. He may cite single cases; he cannot add them up.

Yours faithfully,
HUMPHREY SMALLWOOD,
6 Barnsley Road,
Edgbaston,
Birmingham,
September 26.

Rugby line-up

From Mr David J. L. Gabbitass

Sir, There is an easy answer to John Payne's predicament (September 27). He should join a rugby club. The membership fee would be no more than the excess which he has to pay to ticket touts and would be spent much more beneficially.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID J. L. GABBITASS,
Wolfrans,
Dentford Chambers,
62/64 North Hill,
Plymouth, Devon.

Emergency exit

From Mr Vivian Ridler

Sir, Yesterday a van passed me with a notice on its door which read, "This door is alarmed. Do not open."

Yours etc,
VIVIAN RIDLER,
14 Stanley Road,
Oxford,
September 28.

2,3

Travel: Know your snow; a Virgin Islands voyage; dallying in Deauville; Collecting: Caddy spoons; Eating Out; and Drink

4

Values: Changing tastes in the fast food market; from Kentucky Fried to caviar; Shopfront; and In the Garden

THE TIMES Saturday

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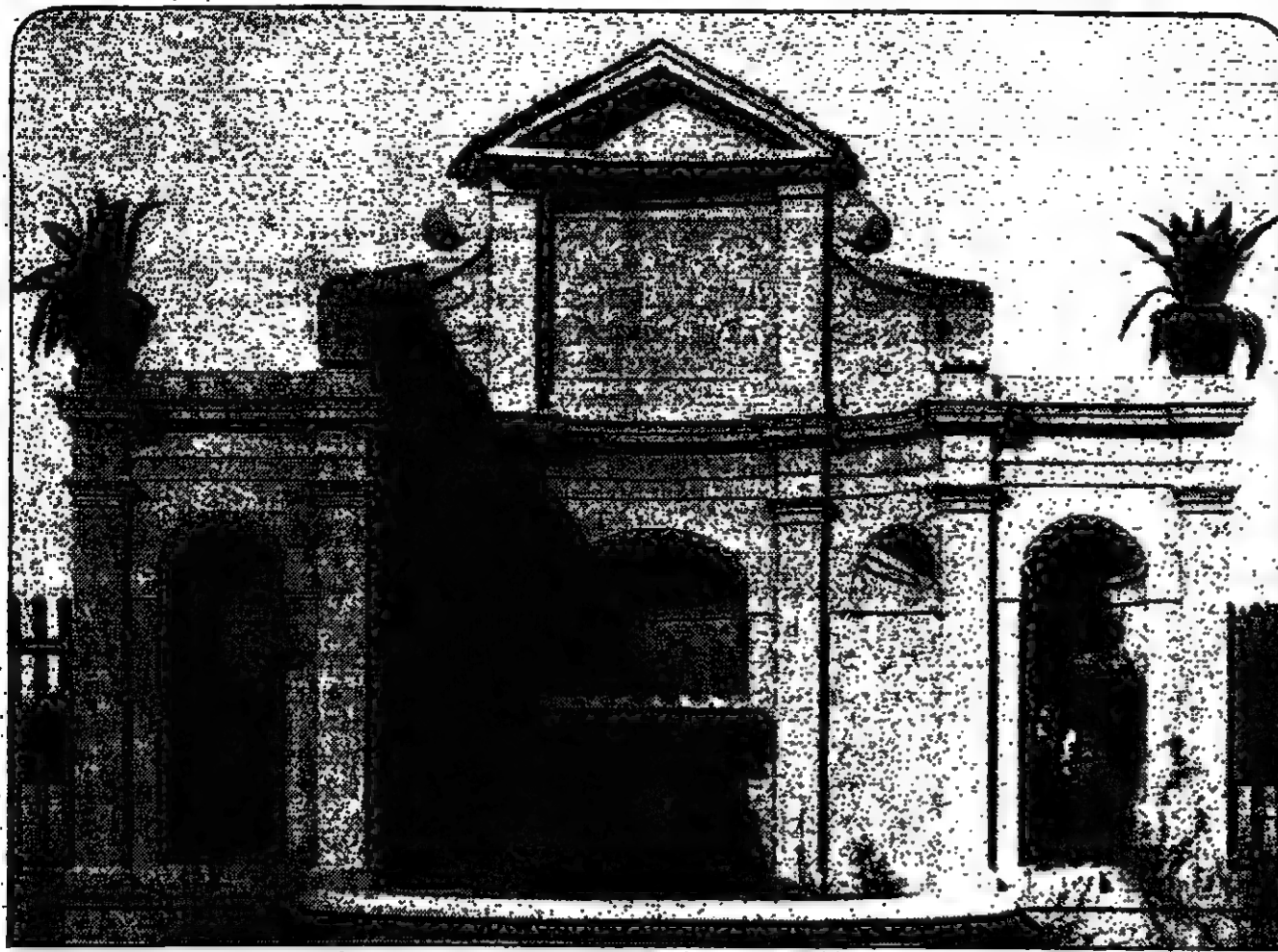
Review: Rock records of the month; Photography: Time's changing faces; Preview: Critics' choice of Theatre and Galleries

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Preview: Films, Music, Films on TV, Opera, Dance; Prize concise crossword; Chess; Bridge; Family Life; and The Week Ahead

1-7 OCTOBER 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Pavilioned in extravagant splendour



Folie de grandeur (above): The curved look of Quinlan Terry's Nymphaeum is an illusion created by a clever trick perspective Chinese puzzle (left): Lakeside pavilion built by Peter Foster for Lord De Ramsey. The design was suggested by a Constable sketch Modern art (right): Terry's Temple of Venus in West Wycombe Park is made of artificial stone and fibreglass



Follies are an expensive kind of architectural joke. But they are not simply a frivolous diversion for "decadent people who have got money"; and they are enjoying a revival. Clive Aslet has been finding out how, where and why

I expect you are bored with being asked about your folly", I said to Robert Heber-Percy of Faringdon House. "I am rather", he replied. The folly in question is a gaunt tower of brick surmounted by a corona of pinnacles. It was built as a twenty-first birthday present from Lord Berners, author, painter, musician and eccentric, in 1935. "How marvellous", I ventured. "Not really", he returned. "I would have preferred a horse".

The structure stands on what is now called Folly Hill outside the town of Faringdon in Oxfordshire. It was intended as an ornament to the landscape, although now that the trees have grown up only a spike or two is visible from a distance above the Scotch firs. The doorway has been concreted up because of vandals. Stories about it are legion.

The style was a compromise between Lord Berners's preference for Gothic and that of the architect, who was his friend Gerald Wellesley, future seventh Duke of Wellington, for classicism. Even in the more relaxed world of 30 years ago, there was enough opposition for an inquiry to be staged by the Ministry of Health. A local admiral objected. But, Wellesley retorted, he could not see it from his house without a telescope. "It is my custom to look through a telescope at the view", responded the admiral. That perhaps was the whole point of the building. "It was a tease", says Mr Heber-Percy. "I think the only reason Gerald (Lord Berners) built it was that he was told not to". Which is probably as good a reason for building a folly as most.

The essence of a folly is, naturally, that it has no purpose, or no purpose commensurate with the trouble and expense of erecting it. Although there were some Elizabethan follies, such as Sir Thomas Tresham's triangular lodge at Rushton, the golden age of course came in the eighteenth century when temples, Gothic lodges and rustic seats were dotted over the parklands of England like the classical ruins in a Claud Lorrain painting. However, to the late Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, the folly impulse died with Lord Berners's tower. "It must be the last of the follies", he wrote in *The Buildings of England* (Berkshire volume, since it was done on old counties). Anyone familiar with his hopes for rationalism in modern architecture can almost hear the sigh of relief.

But to say anything is the last of anything is dangerous. There had been other twentieth-century follies before the Faringdon tower. McCraig's Folly, a pink granite coliseum above the ferry port of Otan; the House in the Clouds, a clapboarded watertower turned into a six-storey house at Thorpeness; even the tower Messrs Oxo built over their warehouse in south London (the building itself is, somehow appropriately, used for making the "long egg" in pork pies, by which each slice is given a cross section of yolk).

During the Second World War, the theatrical designer, Oliver Messel, was put into a camouflage unit and went to

great lengths to disguise Somerset pillboxes as rustic incidents, such as Gothic lodges, caravans, haystacks, ruins and wayside cafes. Nor is the building of follies over yet.

The 1980s in architecture is a good time for jokes. Some would say that architecture itself has become a bit of a joke, with both the moral and constructional premises of Modernism under attack. The architects of post-Modernism delight in making witty cultural references, such as the fringe of eaves, symbol of breakfast, above the cornice of Terry Foster's Partnerships' TV-anthology headquarters in Camden, north London. This firm's latest project is to tidy up the forecourt of East Putney station. They intend a classical scheme with pavilions and cypress trees. In the office, it is known as the *Piazza di Putney*.

To speak to an architect who has not only designed but also built many follies over the past 20 years, I visited Peter Foster, surveyor to Westminster Abbey and formerly partner of the late Marshall Sisson, in Hemingford Grey, Huntingdonshire. His own garden boasts two examples. There is a Pompeian shell grotto at the end of a border and a temple aligned on the dining-room window. The temple replaced a tree that died. "It would have taken too long for another tree to grow up, so I put this in its place." The fluted columns are not of an eighteenth-century material, being cast concrete, but then few eighteenth-century follies were what they appeared. The object



Tower of strength: Lord Berners's 'teasing' folly in Faringdon. It was built as a present for Robert Heber-Percy and remained standing despite vociferous protests from local people

was to please the eye from a distance, which was often done by using brick covered with stucco, rather than stone. Today, fibreglass "can be very useful", Mr Foster says; it is probably this more than anything that has given folly building its new lease of life.

We drove a few miles to Abbots Ripton, where Lord De Ramsey's breathtakingly romantic garden created out of an unpromising flat site contains Mr Foster's greatest concentration of follies. We stopped the car by a willow-fringed lake. On the other side was a little Chinese pavilion, with a copper roof beginning to turn green, as the architect intended, and a gilded weather-vane of a sturgeon spinning and flashing in the blustery wind. It was built about seven years ago, the design having been suggested by a Constable sketch Mr Foster had seen in *Country Life*. "I used iroko wood from East Africa", he explained, "because it goes a lovely white colour and you don't have to maintain it. It lasts more or less indefinitely." Low maintenance bills are a consideration even for follies these days.

"What does one do in here?" I asked, when we got into the little room inside. "Nothing really", Mr Foster replied. "The only change I made was that somebody thought it would be a

jolly good secret place for bird watching, so I put in this little, diamond-shaped shutter." A flock of duck took off from the lake as we trudged back. The lake itself is not such a folly as it might seem: it also serves as an irrigation reservoir for the farm and grants were available when it was dug. It must have come in useful during the "hot summer".

In the main part of the garden, we walked along paths of beautifully green and springy lawn. We crossed a Chinese bridge made of timber. "It is based on a design by Abraham Swan, but I took a lot of trouble over its construction. Swan did a lot of these bridges." On the other side was a circular, thatched building with large, pointed windows. It was surrounded by columns made of tree trunks, still with their bark on, from which branches rose up to the eaves. On close inspection, it became clear that the branches were nailed on.

"I never quite got what I wanted with the tree trunks", said Mr Foster. "I was after a much more natural effect with the branches. I went through all the woods with the keeper, but I couldn't find the right trees. Pine would have been more satisfactory; these ones are ash."

The folly that Mr Foster says cost him the greatest effort is a Gothic screen and ogee canopy in trellis-work. It stands in the centre of a long flowering border, again the site of a dead tree. "I think there are 400 crockets on it, something like that. It really wasn't possible to carve them all, so we had most of them cast in fibreglass in the kind of colour I thought the wood would go." The inspiration for this one? "Well, when one does have to look after Westminster Abbey," he said, "back to the house. A tropical blast of warm, heavy air hit us as we entered the Pompeian swimming pool. The pool is surrounded by a peristyle of columns derived from Paestum. Beyond it is the Islamic folly, in the form of an Arabic gateway. It occupies one wall of a previously poky courtyard, which was certainly in need of something to enliven the view from the house. Here, too, what appear to be fearsome pointed studs on the gate are made out of fibreglass. For the next project, Mr Foster is considering a gaily painted *Dame à la Lorraine* style tent; no folly has been built quite in that form before.

Follies are of their nature amusing. They speak of a gentlemanly culture in which both wit and erudition are savoured. In the mid 1970s, Harry Graham of Bath built several, including a Chinese kiosk, for a client in Ross-on-Wye. "He was a wealthy man", says Mr Graham. "He had an extremely nice house and a large garden that was his main pleasure in life. He loved improving the garden and had nothing else to do. He was the image of a cultivated gentleman fussing over things he liked."

But that is not to say follies are merely frivolous. Quinlan Terry, a hard-line champion of classicism who, it has to be said,

is pretty serious about most things, has built several. "There is something very serious about follies. It is like the chap playing the violin and being amusing, but all the time sweating his guts out. Follies are very, very serious buildings. The architectural content is 100 per cent. They are nothing but architecture. I want to stop the idea about them being done by decadent people who have got money. Follies need to be very expensive and very well-built. He is the only architect of the 19 at the Castello show whose designs have been constructed. About 10 years ago, Mr Terry

built a number of follies for Alistair and David McAlpine in Hampshire and Kent. They included a stone seat and temple, a geometrical bridge, a rustic lodge, a large and elaborate birdcage for parrots and a Nymphaeum. The last is in the form of a pedimented screen with shell niches containing shepherds and shepherdesses on either side. Its front is carved in a dazzling trick perspective, so that it appears curved while being flat.

More recently, he has completed an elliptical Temple of Venus and a flint grotto at West Wycombe Park. Continued on page 3

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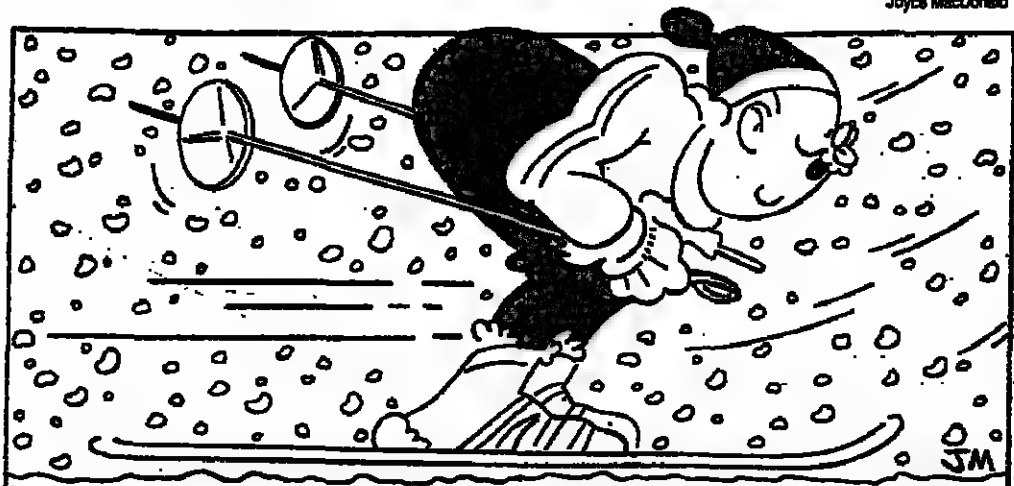
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Degrees of perfection to be found on the slopes

It is a truism that no two snow flakes are the same. The ardent skier knows that snow conditions can be almost as variable.

The reasons for the variations at any given resort relate not only to current weather conditions but also to developments throughout the earlier part of the season. In fact the build-up before the crowds arrive may be one of the most important factors.

At any busy resort it is essential that a good base is built up on the popular pistes in November and December if the runs are to withstand the rigours of the high season. Thereafter, regular falls are needed to replenish the slopes.

When these ideal conditions do not occur a combination of both natural and man-made factors can conspire to spoil your enjoyment. These concern the type of snow that falls, what happens to it once it is on the ground and the depredations of hordes of piste-bashers.

The type of snow that falls is largely a function of temperature, while the amount is influenced by the type of weather system involved. Big storms may produce excessive quantities of powder at high altitudes. At lower levels they may produce dangerous conditions with snow like kneed, wet concrete. Weaker frontal systems often produce

Bill Burroughs explains why large resorts with plenty of lifts and well-groomed pistes offer the best Alpine skiing in all weathers

ideal falls at the top of the mountain but do little to replenish worn lower slopes.

Once the snow is down it undergoes a continuous process of change. The wind can strip icy and exposed slopes of new snow and combine with the sun to spoil good powder by forming a crust on unpisted surfaces. Even where the temperature remains well below freezing the structure of the snow changes and it naturally compacts. The joys of powder must be taken while they last.

Deterioration is more rapid when the temperature changes are great due either to warm sun later in the season, or to variations in the weather. Daytime melting of the surface layer leads to a rock-hard crust after night frost.

The damage is accelerated by either prolonged rain, or the mysterious föhn, a wind that can blow from the south. As it rises up the Alps the air cools only slowly as it produces rain or snow. On descending the northern slopes the now dry air warms resulting in a rapid thaw and oppressive weather conditions.

Avalanches are a special hazard of heavy snowfalls. Here a little learning is a dangerous thing. The only safe rule is to obey the warning signs that are put up, as even the most experienced skiers have been

trapped by the fickle snows, often with fatal consequences.

The risk of avalanches is greatest soon after heavy falls, and the danger depends on the amount and type of snow and the gradient of the slope. But because the snow is always changing imperceptibly, a slope may become unstable after many days and then the tiniest perturbation by a skier, a gust of wind or even a loud noise can unleash a major slide.

As for the impact of skiers, the effects are all too obvious. While good off-piste conditions may survive for quite a while in less accessible areas, busy pistes are soon covered by the characteristic periodic pattern of moguls (bumps in the snow). After several days without snowfall these can grow dramatically, especially in the steepest and most constricted parts of the runs.

It is during the periods without snowfall that the average skier learns the advantages of a resort which devotes substantial resources to tending the runs. The widespread use of piste-machines can restore worn runs very effectively. This provides a few days of good conditions until the inevitable moguls reappear.

All this adds up to a case for choosing a big, varied resort with plenty of up-hill lifts and mechanical aids to tend the runs. The opportunity to select runs at different altitudes, in or out of the sun and in or out of trees provides a better chance of finding good skiing.

The big French resorts - Chamonix, Courchevel (the Trois Vallées) and Val d'Isère - are likely to provide an optimum range of conditions though the large Swiss and Austrian resorts, such as Verbier and St Anton, are now rising to the Gallic challenge. What such large mechanized resorts may lack is atmosphere but this brings you back to the basic issue of whether you are going for the après-ski or the snow.

Michael Watkins discovers paradise in the Caribbean, despite the mompums

A voyage through the zany Virgins

Christopher Columbus was a creep; I mean, he really was a creep. It had to be said sometime and I've been biting my tongue ever since the 1493 affair. Ambition is one thing, uncontrollable appetites another, and colonizing greed, in the guise of patriotism, is positively obscene. A moderate person would have sent messages back to the king and queen in Seville, Cordoba or wherever, jauntily explaining that he'd discovered the United States of America, which was great - that he'd gone on to discover Miami, which was great, a great place for Spaniards, and could be pleased come home because the crew was fed up and surly was getting on top of them.

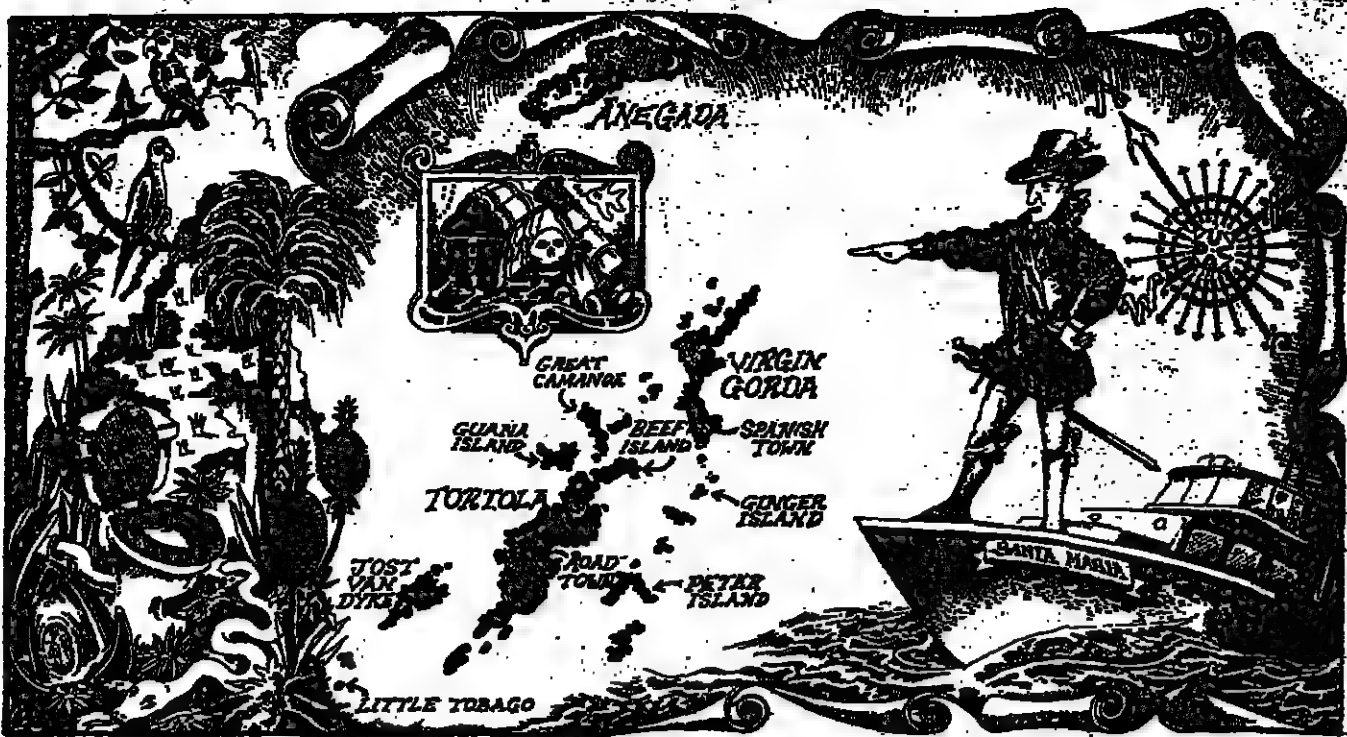
I may be doing Mr Columbus an injustice: *los Reyes Católicos* have much to answer for, not least the exploitation of the New World. It may be that a courtly edict admonished Columbus for sloth, urging him to sail on to discover more virgin territory to the glory of Spain.

Which is precisely what he did, stumbling across St Croix on November 14, renaming it Isla de Santa Cruz presumably because he felt the aboriginal name of "Ay Ay" lacked class. Three days later he discovered other virgin islands, calling them Las Once Mil Virgenes in honour of St Ursula and the legendary 11,000 martyrs. Virgin Gorda found him perhaps in a despondent mood: Fat Virgin.

Anti-social by nature, I think I would have enjoyed the Virgin Islands between 1685 and 1690. Tortola had been British since 1672 and I would have shared the lushly mountainous, 21-square-mile island with Jonathan Turner and his wife, breeding livestock, planting cotton and fishing. By 1690 there was a population explosion: with 14 men, several women and slaves, the place was going downhill. Which, oddly and truthfully, is the fact of the matter. The lack of official awareness in the islands, determined a future which had scant administrative guidance from Whitehall.

President Hoover once described the nearby American Virgin Islands as an "effective poorhouse", and those islands have been economically, socially and politically more advanced than their British neighbours where the landscape is rocky, soil thin, climate sub-arid; where rainfall is only moderate and evaporation high. I seem to have forgotten something. Oh yes, I remember now: they are quite luminously beautiful.

They are also hell to get to. Supposing, as I did, you want to stay with Daphne Henderson at White Bay Sandcastle. I'll tell you what you are letting yourself in for. A British Airways flight from Heathrow to Antigua, connecting with LIAT (Leeward Islands Air



Transport, affectionately - and of course with no just cause - known as Luggage In Another Town) which flies, via St Kitts, to Beef Island.

From Beef you cross, via Queen Elizabeth II Bridge, a spindly wooden arrangement, to Tortola. Through the Virgin Islands' capital of Road Town, marginally smaller than my Suffolk village of Needham Market, on to West End where Daphne and Toad await you. Daphne is English, very English, an Indian Army daughter; and Toad is Toad, a seagoing vehicle which leapfrogs its way for the half-hour crossing to the third largest island in the British Virgin Islands, all eight square miles of St John Dyke.

Fifty yards offshore Daphne tethered Toad, prior to loading my luggage, gas cylinders, food supplies and candles aboard a dinghy, asked me to cast off as she rowed for the beach. "I expect you'd like to swim ashore", she called brightly, recommending no alternative. A swim prepares one for the spartan conditions of life on land.

Daphne has four cottages, accommodating a maximum of eight guests on her property, which is sited on a white coral beach overgrown with hibiscus and coconut palm. There is no electricity or telephone; rain water is collected and is precious; a nursery-type rhyme in the loo reads: "In these isles of sun and fun, we never flush for number one."

There is an open-air bar, an enclosed dining area and an emergency lavatory operated on a principle so arcane that I'm not at all sure I understand where it all goes - or how. There is simply a rather horrid gobbling noise, a moment or two of brooding followed by a whoosh of the sort falling shells must have made at Ypres; in

climax there is a contented gurgle from the pan and you realise you've won through.

That evening we sat beneath the stars, drinking "pain-killers", a concoction of rum and this and that: we dined, exquisitely, on pumpkin soup, salad, grilled lobster and lime pastry.

Later we were joined by a couple of a yacht, who came ashore for a drink. They had given up a real-estate business in the air-conditioned misery of New York. They told me, and drifted on tide and whim. "Don't you care", I asked, "what goes on in the outside world?" They exchanged glances, the look of a team, two against that world. "Unless it's changed dramatically", he replied, "they're still out there, stalling and tacking each other into little pieces."

After a day or two Mary Randall sent her launch and an hour later she stood on the jetty at Guana Island to welcome me to another kind of paradise. 850 acres of it. Her Land Rover skirted one of six beaches, then climbed past donkeys, short-haired sheep, mangoes, bananas, pineapple, papaya, climbing always to a pinnacle upon which is built what seems to be a dazzling white Greek village. It is a cluster of cottages, handmade of local stone, not a great deal more luxurious than shepherd's huts; but a great deal more expensive.

Mary's Guana Island Club and Daphne's Sandcastle are two of a kind, as impetuous, in their way, as the Jockey Club. Both possess an almost Masonic reticence, both are understated, enclosing the favoured few in the purdah of exclusivity. You either belong or you do not; you can neither insinuate your way in, nor gatecrash. The atmosphere is more house-party than hotel, guests speaking not merely the same tongue but sharing the same emotional dialect - which is totally alien to the uninitiated.

It has something to do with money, but not everything. By no means everything. That, together with such indicative questions as background, are taken for granted. Your diamonds will also be taken for granted so there is no need to wear them. There is no entertainment, no dancing, no "folkloric" floorshow. Guana has a library, Sandcastle has Vivaldi on tape. There may be bridge, there is certainly dinner party conversation; there is walking, swimming, sitting in a heap marvelling at the otherworldliness of it all, watching pelicans skim low over the sea. In sublime, transistorless peace.

Mary's boat ran over one Mosquito Island, also privately owned, where Drake's Anchorage is situated. There has been an inordinate rainfall which had brought out the mompums and no-seums, small aeronautical creatures designed by our Heavenly Father to make us think better of mosquitoes. There were also several unnamed species intent on a human protein diet.

To be fair, such a pestilence is rare; but it is a safeguard to supply yourself with an armoury of repellents: "Gotha", "Buzz-Off", "Holocon", obtainable from your local Genocide Centre. Although, in my own case, squirting everything that moved as well as one or two stationary objects, the lethal bombardment was received with seraphic indifference. Electricity comes from a

generator at Drake's Anchorage, so "lights-out" at 11pm was a relief.

At Drake's Anchorage there are machete trees, scorpions, hermit crabs and wild cats, none vastly dangerous if you take care. There is a majestic underwater kingdom to explore and chef Martin Belmar's chocolate mousse is the talk of the Spanish Main from Puerto Rico to Panama. But again, the deprivations are immense: no motor cars, no telly, no disco. And, if you'll excuse the blasphemy, no golf.

There's worse to come. From Mosquito (so named, incidentally, after an Indian tribe, not the national bird) you can almost, but not quite, see Saba, Rock, home of the Kilbrides; that's Bert, the father; Jim, the son; Jacob, the holy terror of a grandson; and Francine, daughter-in-law. Loomies, every one.

Christopher Columbus was something like Sophocles missing a dry Martini. People who enjoy the BVI aren't like that; which doesn't mean to say they're dumb. I would guess they've got their act pretty well together, in an unobvious way. You don't just happen upon places like Guana and Sandcastle; usually they are the result of years of discriminating search. And when you do find them, you don't go blabbing about it as I'm doing. Life, in the whole, is more of a compromise; which is where Peter Island Hotel and Yacht Harbour has been so thoughtful.

Peter Island, managed by an Englishman, David Benson, and his Californian wife Gae, is 1,000 acres or so of pleasure-bliss, with built-in air-conditioning, hot baths, refrigeration and wall-to-wall room service should you need to call upon it.

There are about four billion people cluttering up the global surface who tell you jauntily at cocktail parties that they adore roughing it - provided there's a sauna and beauty parlour at the end of an exhausting day in the sun. This is where Peter Island comes in, the rough with the smooth, the place for all reasons, the ultimate compromise. Believe me, I don't admire myself for saying so but, after a month at Sandcastle, the devil could tempt me with a spot of plumbing, I am not averse to a conventional flush.

When they do, they're going to build the world's first underwater hotel. They showed me the plans, and when it's open I shall be one of the first to stay because it will be a damn good place to get away from the mompums and no-seums.

Loomies, I told you; and if there were more of their ilk the universe would be a wondrous place. Meanwhile, they'll go on diving, bringing up young Jacob in innocence, teaching guests at Bitter End how to scuba dive; for Saba, their home and a lump of island rock, is just off the Bitter End Yacht Club at North Sound, Virgin Gorda. Sailing accounts for 60 per cent of the tourist traffic to the BVI, mostly "bare-boat", charter sailing.

They have to park the things somewhere at night and Bitter End seems to be the in-place. Not that I am an expert in the matters but, apart from the occasional reef which tears the intestines out of yachts, these

waters are ideal; and at the end of the day Bitter End provides safe anchorage, good food and companionship, splendid little cottages if you've had enough of a hard bunk in the fo'c'sle.

Which still leaves Virgin Gorda, Great Cameneo, Eustatia, Ginger Island, plus another 16 uninhabited islands. It also leaves Deadman's Chest, Fallen Jerusalem, Cockroach, Little Tobago and another 16 uninhabited. The drive from Gun Creek to Spanish Town in Virgin Gorda alone is worth the trip from Needham Market; while a similar drive around Tortola is a mystery tour because there are no signposts. Someone sensibly decided that since there are few roads and fewer destinations there was no point in squandering taxpayers' money. Not that there's much tax either.

If I had to define the quality of sophistication, I'd say it was something like Sophocles missing a dry Martini. People who enjoy the BVI aren't like that; which doesn't mean to say they're dumb. I would guess they've got their act pretty well together, in an unobvious way. You don't just happen upon places like Guana and Sandcastle; usually they are the result of years of discriminating search. And when you do find them, you don't go blabbing about it as I'm doing. Life, in the whole, is more of a compromise; which is where Peter Island Hotel and Yacht Harbour has been so thoughtful.

Peter Island, managed by an Englishman, David Benson, and his Californian wife Gae, is 1,000 acres or so of pleasure-bliss, with built-in air-conditioning, hot baths, refrigeration and wall-to-wall room service should you need to call upon it.

There are about four billion people cluttering up the global surface who tell you jauntily at cocktail parties that they adore roughing it - provided there's a sauna and beauty parlour at the end of an exhausting day in the sun. This is where Peter Island comes in, the rough with the smooth, the place for all reasons, the ultimate compromise. Believe me, I don't admire myself for saying so but, after a month at Sandcastle, the devil could tempt me with a spot of plumbing, I am not averse to a conventional flush.

When they do, they're going to build the world's first underwater hotel. They showed me the plans, and when it's open I shall be one of the first to stay because it will be a damn good place to get away from the mompums and no-seums.

Loomies, I told you; and if there were more of their ilk the universe would be a wondrous place. Meanwhile, they'll go on diving, bringing up young Jacob in innocence, teaching guests at Bitter End how to scuba dive; for Saba, their home and a lump of island rock, is just off the Bitter End Yacht Club at North Sound, Virgin Gorda. Sailing accounts for 60 per cent of the tourist traffic to the BVI, mostly "bare-boat", charter sailing.

They have to park the things somewhere at night and Bitter End seems to be the in-place. Not that I am an expert in the matters but, apart from the occasional reef which tears the intestines out of yachts, these

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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

DRINK

Under the spotlight ahead of its time

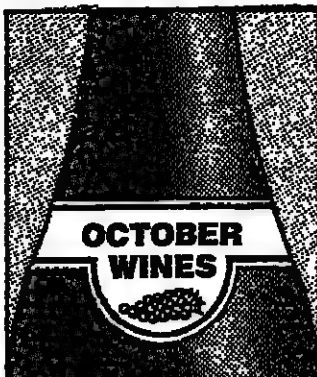
Every so often a particular wine suddenly seizes the imagination of the wine world and becomes the latest craze, in much the same way as the hula-hoop and the skateboard did among schoolchildren. Chateau Musar, that unusual Lebanese wine that tasted like a Bordeaux, was the sensation of the Bristol Wine Fair a few years back, and Moulin Touchais, that curious old white wine from Anjou, was all the rage a year or so ago. Rioja and California wines have both enjoyed a turn in the spotlight, and there are signs that the wines from the cooler Pacific north-west (Oregon, Idaho and Washington States) may well become the next fashionable tipple.

But in the meantime the latest star, so new that it arrived in this country only last month, could prove to be a humble Vin de Pays de l'Hérault - the Mas de Daumas Gassac. This southern vin de table was hailed in November by that French bible of gastronomy *Gault-Millau* - a publication not exactly known for its fulsome praise - as the "Chateau Lafite Languedocien". And it did not stop there: "A unique wine, no doubt soon to be recognized as the equal of great classified Bordeaux". Not to be outdone, the *Revue Vinicole* then described Mas de Daumas Gassac as "a miracle", and the rest of the French wine press followed suit.

After this accolade, I was keen to taste the wine. But I had my doubts: no wine from the Languedoc could surely be that good?

The answer is that it isn't. The young, chunky red wines from this youthful 12 hectare estate (the first vines were planted in 1973) are made predominantly from the Cabernet Sauvignon grape, rounded off with a little Malbec, Merlot and Cabernet Franc among other varieties. They are actually more like Latour than Lafite. With their enormous colour and immense, hefty tannic character, they are certainly impressive, but they need time to soften up.

The 1980 is the one Mas de Daumas Gassac red that you could just about open now, if you wanted to see what all the fuss was about. With its deep



purple colour and delicious, full, fruity taste, it is definitely the best of the reds and a good, hefty wine to go with the first winter dishes. (£4.85 from Bow Wine Vaults, 10 Bow Churchyard, London EC4; £4.80 from Bibendum, 113 Regent's Park Road, London NW1.)

Much the most attractive of the Mas de Daumas wines at the moment is the 1982 Rosé de Fréchet, which is made half and half from the Cabernet Sauvignon and the Syrah grapes. Its depth of fruit and punchy full-bodied flavour make it one of the best pink wines I have ever tasted, and it should cheer up any autumnal day with its bright, pinky-red colour and lively sparkle. (Bow Wine Vaults and The Wine Studio, 9 Eccleston Street, London SW1.)

If drinking rosé in October strikes you as silly, then I suggest you try a lovely warming winter wine, the Les Arnevels 1981 Châteaufort-du-Pape from J.R. Quoit (£3.99 at selected branches of Tesco's). Make certain you open it at least half an hour in advance.

The arrival of autumn does not mean that one has to give up white wines altogether. I find some of the most comforting wines in cold weather are whites with a slight touch of sweetness, particularly as aperitifs. The old sweet Loire wines, for instance, are ideal: recently I retasted a delicious golden 1973 Chateau du Layon whose luscious, smoky, mineral flavour was every bit as good second-time round. This is another bargain buy at £3.72 from High Breck Vineyard, Spats Lane, Headley, Hampshire.

Jane MacQuitty



Striking it rich on a coast that clings to its past

A hundred years ago, Deauville was just part of Normandy. A very soggy part, soaked in mud, and very flat indeed. Then two powerful gentlemen, one English, one French, both rich, chose their site carefully and out of the mud rose what very quickly became one of the smartest and most fashionable resorts in France. Wealthy French and English alike took to it enthusiastically. Neither had far to come and it had a familiarity that suited them - better the Deauville they knew.

In 1913 the Hotel Normandy was built and well-frequented. A year later, the Royal went up, to house the mistresses of the visiting nobility, who were giving the place a bad name. Far from making the situation less racy, it made matters worse. Smarter than its predecessor, it appealed not only to the ladies, but also to their escorts who simply moved across the road to join them. In the 1920s came the Hotel du Golf, a mile or so out of town and catering for the sporting passions of its guests. Jaunty murals and crisp white antinassars, embroidered with a little red pennant, are like a breath of fresh air from

the golf course or the racetrack at the foot of the hill.

To live Deauville as it should be lived, even today, you must be rich. Outside the casino, a gallery sells Boudins, Coteau drawings, a painting by Fernand Léger. Designer shops line the streets and the restaurants are not cheap. No one has broken the bank at the casino, and the white building rests on its laurels. From three in the afternoon, people can risk a minimum of 10 francs on *boule, chemin de fer, black jack*.

The croupiers call "*les jeux sont faits. Rien ne va plus*" and a group of gamblers in jeans watches its money change hands. In the evening, the players start at the casino, and the white building rests on its laurels. From three in the afternoon, people can risk a minimum of 10 francs on *boule, chemin de fer, black jack*.

There are casinos - less grand but once almost as popular - all along the coast. We visited Cabourg, where Marcel Proust stayed on the fourth floor of the Grand Hotel (casino next door) on the sea front. In September, on a cold and blustery day, there was melancholy in the air. The chandeliers chinked when the door opened and let in the howl of the sea.

Further along the coast, at Houlgate, another, smaller casino, has *les pieds dans l'eau*. Case chairs in the main salon were piled on top of each other, waiting for non-existent guests. There were potted palms, and even crackly 1930s music to accompany the taking of tea. Lonely men in dinner jackets

looked up hopefully as we passed. Boule is available here too in the afternoon, but no one was taking up the offer. The architecture is extraordinary. It ranges from mock English Tudor to the 1930s. The beach chalets in Deauville have mosaic trim and rows of creamy pillars. The Normandy looks

like a set for *Elizabeth and Essex* outside, and for *The Great Gatsby* inside. The marble is dappled, the dining room one of the prettiest I have seen. Mirrors reflect the trees outside.

Houses are half-timbered, more often than not. Mockingbird Heights without the Musters. The seafront is like Brighton - wide streets, a promenade, neatly manicured lawns and genteel geraniums. Often there are wooden balconies, curvy like the ones beloved of Scarborough or Westcliff-on-Sea. Cables are eccentric, turrets tall.

There is an Englishness that is charming but not twee. You can buy a Buttery at Fringetemps, there is a hint of tweed, and the continental breakfasts come as a surprise. What is generally thought of as *le style anglais* has been achieved - no fuss, some glamour, not much showing off. The town is not spivvy, although it could be. It is all so ham it is smart - a sort of English Chanel. She started here before setting up in Paris, and would have been proud of the beach. Les Planches. Subtly



I went to Deauville with Astra. Holidays (833 0237). The cost of a short break at the Hotel Royal, with bed and breakfast, including Channel crossing with car and two persons (Townsend Thoresen Southampton-La Havre/Le Havre-Portsmouth) is £252 for two days, £298 for three, and £340 for four. Additional person, £91, £113 and £135. Single room supplement, £15 a night; room with sea view supplement £8 per person per night.

Where to go: Honfleur, medieval fishing village where Boudin painted; Caen for William the Conqueror; Houlgate, Cabourg, Trouville for the casinos and life by the sea; less smart than Deauville,

COLLECTING

Spoonfuls of whimsy to go with the tea

It is a curious fact that the much collected tea caddy has no society of its own, while its rarer accompaniment, the tea-caddy spoon, has enjoyed the attentions of the Society of Caddy Spoon Collectors for the last 21 years. A case not so much of the cart before the horse but of the self-propelling cart, for these fanciful spoons with their stunted stems have an instant collectibility.

The caddy spoon emerged towards the middle of the eighteenth century and in its earliest form differed very little from a medicine spoon: a narrow oval bowl with a short stem which lived in a drawer at the base of the caddy. The most prolific maker of this kind of spoon was George Smith, who was working during the third quarter of the eighteenth century. It was not until the 1780s that the wide-bowled, squat-stemmed spoons were specially made for the job, being small enough to fit inside the canisters.

Generally, caddy spoons fall into three categories: plain and functional; fanciful; and sumptuous. For obvious reasons the first kind is the most common and also the cheapest. Phillips has sold quite a few collections of caddy spoons, and prices for the simple ones start at around £20. At this year's Olympia Fine Art and Antiques Fair in June, I noticed ordinary pieces retailing from £40.

Engaging appeal of the follies

continued from page 1

Wycombe Park, home of the Dashwood family and once the scene of the eighteenth-century Hell Fire Club's bacchanalia. "The temple is on a mound and has a great ball on top. I have also built a cricket pavilion in the form of a rustic temple." Although he is well known for his use of traditional building materials, even Mr Terry will countenance the use of modern materials in a park - the columns of the temple are of artificial stone and the final of fibreglass.

The nicest thing I did for Alistair McAlpine was a giant, rusticated column with an enormous urn on top. It was built 10 years ago, when the Labour government was threat-

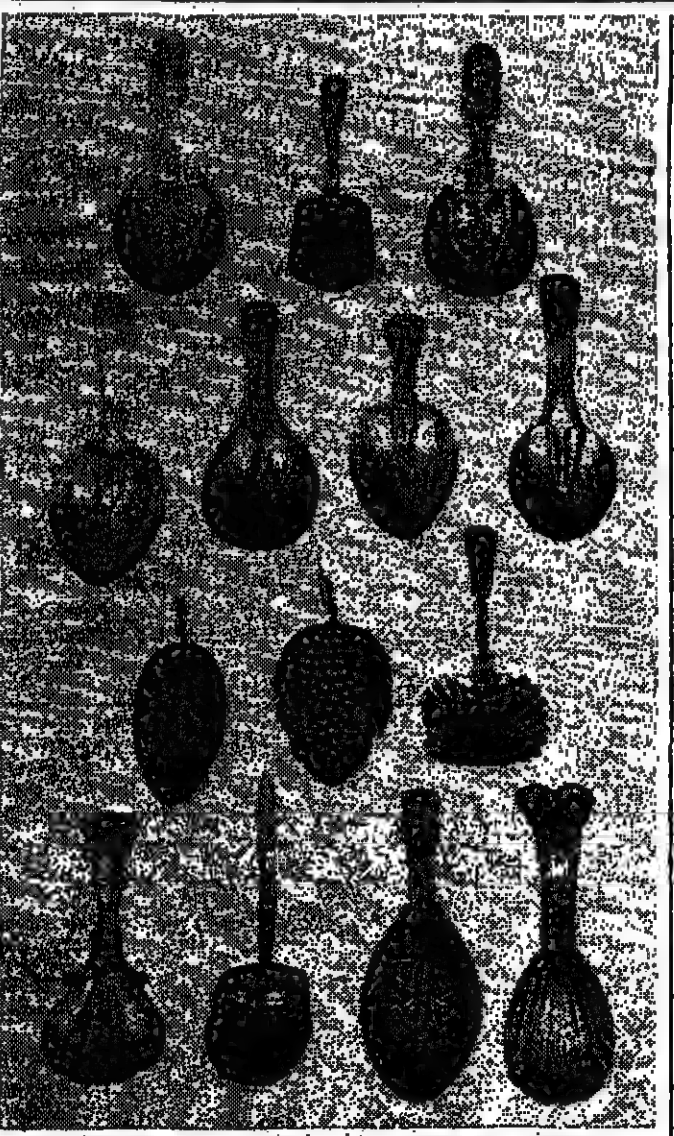
very top end of the market is reserved for the sumptuous pieces made by the finest English silversmiths such as Paul Storr.

There was much competition, particularly in the provinces, to produce the most imaginative and whimsical designs for caddy spoons, and they reached their peak during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The names of the famous examples speak for themselves: Eagle, Wing, Hand, Thistle, Serpent and Shell. Carp and, probably, most famous of all, Jockey Cap. This is the apple of many a collector's eye, and as a result it has suffered from the attentions of forgers. Michael Prevor of Phillips has come across many fakes, which, he says, are made up from the backs of watch cases. The genuine article will cost the best part of £100 and very occasionally a good deal more.

However, this is the caddy spoon in its expensive form. At the other end of the scale is the shell spoon, which was probably the most popular type ever made. There are two quite different but perfectly sensible reasons why a shell was the preferred design.

One was the discovery of Classical ornament after the excavations at Pompeii and Herculaneum. The second was more mundane. When the first shipments of tea arrived from China in the early days of the trade, the canisters were packed with a natural shell to use as a scoop and this was an inspiration to silversmiths.

Initially it was the bowl of the spoon which received all the decorative treatment, but when the variations of form had been exhausted, it was the turn of the stem and final to become the



Flights of fancy: Tea-caddy spoons to cater for every taste

dominant features. In some cases the stem becomes part of the whole design, as in the Lady in the Crinoline spoon. A specimen believed to be unique is the Serpent Shell spoon, designed with a snake entwined round the stem. It can be seen at the Holly Trees House Museum in Colchester. Essex, home of the finest collection of caddy spoons in the country.

Whereas literature abounds on the caddy itself, the sole contributor on the subject of caddy spoons is Eric Delieb, in his book *Investing in Silver* and his introduction to the catalogue for the exhibition of caddy spoons at The Goldsmith's Hall in 1965.

Fenella Rowse

When a prize-winning first novel by an Italian professor of semiotics overtakes John le Carré, Jackie Collins, Stephen King, Norman Mailer, *Return of the Jedi* and captures first place on the New York Times Bestseller List, it must be something special.

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EATING OUT

Chinese encounter too hot for comfort

The hot, spicy cuisine of the central Chinese province of Szechuan is vying with that of Peking to become the most fashionable alternative to Cantonese cooking in the West. We test its attractions at two London restaurants

WINGS 6 Porters Road, New Barnet (445 8800). Open Tues-Sat noon-2.45 pm, 6-10.30 pm; Sun noon-2.30 pm, 6-10.30 pm

Our first stop in the new wave of Szechuan restaurants came highly recommended, on the basis, it turned out, of an earlier, and seemingly more authentic, menu. Whatever its past, the Wings of today is one of those expensive, stylish new Chinese restaurants with a sense of décor borrowed from the more upmarket French establishments of the West End and prices to match.

The service was not up to the sophistication of the surroundings, being both slow and robotic, but the meal began well. Bang bang chicken, nicely presented in a peanut and chilli sauce, was appetising. Unfortunately the fried seaweed with dried scallops - not a Szechuan dish this, but a personal favourite which we had to try - was ruined by the inexplicable addition of sugar.

Crispy lamb, a Western improvisation served with iceberg lettuce, spring onions and hoisin sauce, was an enjoyable surprise. But then we fell into the hot and sour soup, into which a pot of white pepper seemed to have tumbled, and the evening descended into a macho test of chilli tolerance. A degree of spiciness is called for in Szechuan cuisine but when

you start suspecting that the perfect beverage to accompany a Chinese meal is a jug of margarita, either something is going drastically wrong with your own sense of taste or the chef has the shakes.

The sliced beef with carrots and chilli was not bad, but this dish really works only if the frying is impeccable and the meat cut in fine matchsticks, neither of which was the case. When one orders bean curd and discovers that bacon is masquerading as char shao, that beautifully delicate red roast pork which makes an appearance in so many Chinese dishes, it really is time to make an excuse and leave.

The bill for four, including two bottles of German wine at £3 a litre, came to £55. We shall not return for a second visit.

DRAGON GATE 7 Gerard Street, London W1 (734 5154). Open Mon-Sat noon-11.30 pm; Sun noon-11 pm

After our previous disappointment, we approached Gerard Street, the very heart of London's Chinatown, with some trepidation, and were delighted to discover that this was utterly unnecessary.

There were minor palpitations when one of the snacks brought with the menu once again had hints of Mexican heat, but these were soon dispelled.

Crispy noodles, served with wonderfully succulent giant prawns, remained as an occasional nibbling plate throughout the whole meal. Special Szechuan beancurd showed what an excellent dish a first-

class cook can make of a mundane ingredient.

Language difficulties prevented us from getting to the bottom of the identity of the yellowfish, which seemed to be a rather large oily fish, possibly of the mackerel genus, with a strong flavour, braised in ginger and straw mushrooms. Perhaps it was as the waiter insisted, a genuine yellowfish.

Whatever the case, the result was delightful, and proved a good foil to the tea-smoked duck, served with sweet salt and pepper, which closed the meal.

At £21 for two, including four beers and enough food to satisfy another two greedy people, our dinner represented exceptional value for the West End.

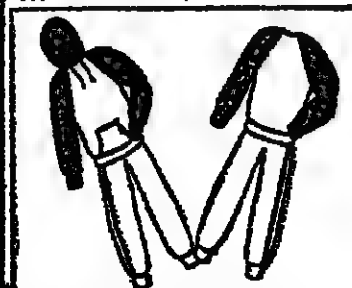
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The trousers are the same for both outfits, grey body with navy blue stripe, drawstring waist and elasticated ankles. All garments are made of 50% cotton, 50% crelase acrylic and are fully machine washable. The inside surfaces have a soft fleecy lining that is warm in the winter and cool in the summer.



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VALUES/From cèpes to caviar, pasta to pizzas, Beryl Downing looks at changing fashions in food

A matter of taste

Photographs by Peter Addis, Brian Harris and Harry Kerr



Next Tuesday Princess Anne will breakfast in Knightsbridge in a style that will make Tiffany's look like a truckers' take-away. The royal bacon and Bollinger will mark the opening of the new Harrods food halls - revamped and enlarged at a cost of £2.6 million.

Devotees of those marbled halls need not fear that they have been turned into a top people's hypermarket - although with 45,000 sq ft of selling space the capacity is similar. This is not so much a face-lift as a skin-peeling operation, with the paint and plaster applied during a fit of late 1940s "modernization" scraped off to reveal some of the most handsome Edwardian tiling in London.

The 1901 meat hall is already protected by a preservation order, and the new layout merely gives customers more opportunity to appreciate the sequence of Royal Doulton tile pictures depicting aspects of the hunt by W. J. Neatby. The bakery hall, on the other hand, has completely changed its character since the blue and white stripes and hardboard have been taken down, revealing the original arched mirrors, decorative surrounds and tiled columns. You would not be at all surprised to meet Lillie Langtry choosing a croissant.

Nostalgia, however, stops at the dado. The space has been allotted astutely to cater for every aspect of modern eating, from an American-style West-side breakfast bar which opens at 7.45am (door 11 in Haas Road), to instant snacks, fresh pasta, health foods, and fresh meat specially prepared for customers to freeze at home.

Much the most significant development in British eating habits during the past five years has been everyone's willingness to spend in money what they save in time. Fast food is with us whether in spoonfuls of caviar (Harrods sell three-hundredweight a year) or in finger lickin' chicken (Kentucky Fried are opening their first drive-thru takeaway store in London's Old Kent Road in November).

Parmesan and pâté

Being British we cannot help but classify ourselves - in this case by what goes in rather than what comes out of our mouths. Pizza, pasta and parmesan is how the classes now divide, with not so much as a whiff of boiled beef and carrots.

At the parmesan end of the market the emphasis is all on fresh foods - even that hard cheese itself now has to be grated in front of the customer, according to Hobbs in South Audley Street, one of London's most exclusive specialist food shops.

"I now get early morning calls for wild mushrooms - cèpes and chanterelles - which would never have happened two years ago," says owner Romilly Hobbs. "People are much more adventurous and are asking for pink and green peppercorns, nut oils and fruit vinegars, Greek yoghurt, fresh foie gras."

There is much less demand for stodge - fewer carrot cakes and more thin pastries with a touch of light lemon filling, much less to eat. And people are asking for a greater variety of cheese. Not just camembert, but

coeur de camembert, brushed with armagnac and rolled in toasted breadcrumbs.

At Fortnum and Mason, the healthy eating (as opposed to health foods) trend has resulted in an increase in canned fruits in natural juices, balanced, however, with a rush on chocolate truffles. The idea that top shoppers buy things in cans should not come as a surprise. Fortnum and Mason were, after all, the first people in this country to sell Heinz and their present range is anything but down market. One regular customer recently thought nothing of buying three cans of pâté with truffle at £90 each to serve as the first course for a grand dinner party.

Food as presents is a new phenomenon that might at one time have been regarded as an insult, but when a royal duchess takes a can of Fortnum's foie gras as a gift to her dinner party hostess the rest of us need not feel diffident about offering any attractively packed delicacy.

Harrods has this trend very much in mind when they arranged their confectionery, flowers and wines in adjacent halls and made an additional gift area in the fruit and vegetable hall where ready-

packed gifts can be quickly selected, or specially chosen assortments can be packed and gift-wrapped.

Hasta la pasta

The over-stretched, mortgage-paying, wife-working middle classes are the pasta eaters of this social survey. Specialist pasta shops and fresh pasta counters in supermarkets are the fast-growing answer to a demand for simpler foods which are the basis of the informal supper which are taking over as the most popular form of entertaining.

"I love cooking but it takes a lot of time," says Elizabeth Emanuel, the fashion designer. "I often serve lasagne because it is something I can do in advance, filled with an amazing bolognese sauce which I get from my local delicatessen. Otherwise I rely more and more on professional caterers."

Outside catering is a time-saving solution for increasing numbers of working hostesses - and the menus are becoming much more adventurous. Louise Bland, managing director of caterers Duff and Trotter in Wilkinsons Street, London SW8, has noticed that she is

being asked much more often to provide ethnic foods for dinner parties - not just taramasalata but Indian, Malaysian and Chinese dishes - and that the fitness craze has meant a demand for lighter and simpler foods involving less meat and fewer creamy puddings.

Even eating out has become less cholesterol-ridden - the emphasis is on informality - salads, pastas, a variety of cold foods and ethnic dishes which are too complicated to prepare at home.

Chinese and chicken

This is the core of Marks and Spencer's current and continuing success. Ten years ago they tried to sell Indian and Chinese dishes to no avail. They were ahead of their time. Today chicken korma and lamb dansak made to authentic recipes are popular sellers throughout the country, and "recipe" dishes are the major growth products.

Price is irrelevant. The value is in the convenience of buying a meal that would involve not only time and effort to prepare, but also many ingredients in larger quantities than would be necessary for the one dish.

Technological developments in the past five years have also led to the introduction of new products. Marks and Spencer's salmon and crab pâtés are possible says Alex Griffiths, the store's senior technical food executive, only because of the new salmon-farming industry which provides a consistent raw material and because of developments in hygiene which allows such pâtés to be packed in quantity the day before sale.

When customers buy fresh foods to cook at home they are demanding packs of smaller portions - chicken joints, breadcrumb pieces, boneless meats.

One curious aspect of British taste seems to be an unswerving devotion to vanilla ice cream. In spite of the many new fancy flavoured and decorated lines Bejam's sales are still 65 per cent vanilla.

If our taste in fast foods is following the American pattern, be warned. One London hotel still remembers with pain the occasion when a guest asked for steak and ice cream and was annoyed when the waiter failed to serve the two together. If we continue to follow our leaders all that ice cream may yet end up on the pizzas.

SHOPFRONT

Politicians are expected to have a finger in every pudding, but not many do it literally. Leonard Grimwade was an exception, dabbling in many enterprises which included exploring, local politics and the selling of pudding steamers all round the world. That was in the early 1900s. Today Mr Grimwade's pudding steamer is being made by Royal Winton who took over the Grimwade factory and it is part of a range of designs under the Edwardian Kitchen Company brand.

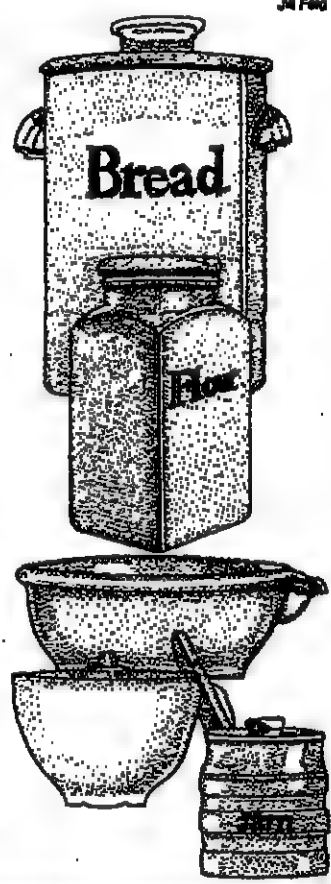
They have been resurrected by the company's founder Mandy Wilkins, who has collected original Edwardian kitchenware for many years. All are in white earthenware with simple black lettering and look equally at home in the country-style kitchens now in vogue, or in the most streamlined modern galley.

The range has been created with great attention to detail - the pudding steamer was tested and approved by Leonard Grimwade's daughter, Muriel, the only surviving member of the family - but also with a very practical approach. The steamed buns were based on a dairy bowl which had an inner rim to keep the flies out but in the modern version the rim has been eliminated. "What is the point, these days?" Mandy Wilkins says. "We don't do things just for the sake of doing it if there isn't a useful purpose."

The items illustrated are a bread bin £22.95, large lipped bowl £22.50 (two smaller sizes available), flour storage jar £7.85, large pudding steamer £22.50, jam pot - the newest item in the range. Most items can be seen at Harrods and Heals in London and at branches of Rackhams.

Sharp thinking

Here's a sharp solution to a drawer full of processor blades - a neat rack in polished pine with room for six attachments. It is suitable for all the leading brands and costs £3.95 including P&H from Ad Hoc Marketing, PO Box 25, Marlborough, Wiltshire.



IN THE GARDEN

Shimmering beauty of the arbutus

Arbutus is an evergreen family of trees belonging to the same group as the heaths and heathers, attractive in leaf and flowers, attractive in most years. They are good trees for the medium-sized garden.

Leaves are leathery in appearance, dark green above and light green beneath; they also vary in form, some being serrated whilst others are entire. In a

gentle breeze the two colours give the tree an appearance of constantly altering. The cinnamon-coloured bark is very pleasing and, like the London plane, is shed to expose the lighter colour beneath. Although these trees need protection, try to site them in such a way that you can see the beauty of the bark.

Flowers are white and pitcher-shaped hanging from panicles at the ends of the shoots, and some may have a pinkish tinge. Different species flower at different times but it is not rare to see both flower and fruit at the same time. The orange-red and sometimes yellowish fruit is from flowers produced the previous year and looks like

strawberries, hence the common name strawberry tree. Arbutus are hardy, although they will need to be specially sited, and can be found in most parts of the country even as far north as Edinburgh. In the early stages they can be susceptible to cold and this is when they need most protection. Young plants should be wrapped with a dry material such as bracken or straw placed in a wigwam-like tent for at least the first year after planting. In following years it may only be necessary to wrap the lower stem, as its main protection should be from its site.

Soils are not critical. Arbutus will grow in good loamy soils, even those with a high percent-

age of peat, and are perfectly happy on limy soils. Some of the better specimens can be found on chalky soils. The extremes of pH are not ideal as they do not produce the right kind of growth.

An important consideration in planting Arbutus is that they do not like root disturbance. All propagation should be done in pots and Arbutus should be planted out into well-prepared, well-drained soil as soon as possible. If they become pot-bound it is difficult to get the roots out and to take over the soil in the garden. The best time to plant pot-grown Arbutus is in late September/October when the ground is still warm and they have a chance of some growth before winter sets in. Otherwise plant in April and May.

The best-known Arbutus is the attractive species *unedo*. It rarely grows over 20ft and flowers from October to December at the same time as the fruit appears. *Rubra* is a form with deeper pink flowers. It is more bushy in habit and could be grown as a shrub.

The best form is, I think, *A. menziesii*, sometimes called *Madrona*. Although bigger than *unedo*, it does not reach much above 20ft. It has a better bark colouring and a better habit. White flowers are produced in April and May, followed by the fruit which is not as large as that of *unedo*, though as the tree is bigger this is not too important. It makes a fine specimen tree in sheltered areas.

A *x. anrachnoides* is a hybrid between *unedo* and *A. andrachne* and is similar to both species. It is not unusual for flowers to be produced in the autumn and winter or during the spring. Fruit is not as big as *unedo*.

Prices vary: *unedo* is the cheapest at about £5 each, other species are at least £10 per pot-grown plant. Do not buy open-ground plants.

Ashley Stephenson



Stony look: 1. Saxifrage *jenkinsonae* (shell-pink flowers); 2. *Artemisia schmidtii* name (silver foliage and flowers); 3. *Cheiranthus harpur crewe* (long-lasting and scented); 4. *Helianthemum* (rock rose); 5. *Gentiana scutellaria*; 6. *Sempervivum* *frankii* (house leek); 7. *Juniperus communis* *compressa*; 8. *Picea mariana* name (black spruce).

On the rocks

The best time to construct, redesign or replant the rock garden is middle to late autumn, especially in wetter areas of the country. Success is easier to achieve if the plants, once planted, do not demand constant watering. Plants today are nearly all sold in pots which in many cases enables planting to take place at any time of the year. Late autumn, however, is still the best time.

Plants chosen as rock garden plants are usually to be found in areas where the rainfall is quite high, but where the drainage is very good.

They are also to be found at higher altitudes where the light is better. The sifting, therefore, should be in open soil, where the plants are not affected by too much shade. Plants will tolerate winds which are natural, but they dislike draughts intensely (winds which are diverted between buildings become draughts and these can be fatal to many plants). A windbreak may be needed.

Plants growing under these conditions are expected to struggle, so fertilization is not

recommended. But a top dressing of a made-up compost is acceptable, although it should not be heavily fortified.

Artemisia schmidtii *nana* has silver foliage and flowers which are similar in colour and make a dense mat over the ground. Aubretia is a great favourite and there are a number of varieties.

Cheiranthus harpur crewe is not everyone's idea of a rock plant, but the scented, golden flowers last for a long time in the spring. Gentians in flower will splash a rock garden with blue. Look for *G. acaulis*, *G. verna* and *G. septemfida* which flower early from spring to summer. For later flowering look for *G. sino-ornata* and *G. maculata*.

Rock roses are reliable and *Helianthemum* *Ben Nevis*, orange-gold, and *Red Orient* are two of many worth considering. *Polygnum* is a plant name gardeners often hate, but the species *P. vacillifolium* is not invasive and has deep pink flowers.

Of the many saxifragas, I recommend *S. jenkinsonae*, which has shell-pink flowers, *S. aizoides* *strutens* and *S. cuneifolia*.

Pleasing Japanese

Plants which flower well into October demand more than a little consideration. Winter is long enough and if it can be shortened by late flowering subjects, so much the better.

Anemone x hybrida is often described as *Anemone japonica* (pictured here). Japanese anemones tolerate a wide range of situations. They do best in full sun but many excellent groups are found in shady places. Heavy soils will not stop them doing well, but keep them away from anything over 7.5 pH.

Drainage should be good enough to take surplus water away. On light, sandy soils they may become invasive and this should be watched carefully. This anemone is sometimes difficult to establish and does not always accept what may appear to be good conditions. Move it to a different area and try again; it will repay the trouble. *Anemone x hybrida* begins flowering in late summer and will go on well into October. It makes poor cut flowers but is a good border plant. As it can reach up to

5ft tall it should be carefully sited so the flowers can be seen but the rest of the plant masked when not in flower.

The best varieties to look for include Bressingham Glow, Louise Unink, and Lady Gilmour. September Charm is one to try, probably more a hybrid than a Japanese anemone. Flowers are full though single and pink with a golden centre.

Plants will cost about £1 each from Bressingham Gardens or Scoots Nurseries, Marlott, Somerset.



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PREVIEW Photography



Renowned British faces covered in changing Times: From left, Vivien Leigh (1939), Laurence Olivier (1946), Margaret Fonteyn (1949), The Queen (1952), Rex Harrison (1956), John Le Carré (1977), Margaret Thatcher (1981), David Bowie (1983)

REVIEW Rock records of the month

Images which obscure the art of the matter

JoBoxers Like Gangbusters (RCA FL 70001)
Rank and File Sundown (Rough 67)
UB 40 Labour of Love (LP DEP 5)
Public Image Ltd Live in Tokyo (VGD 3508)
The Soul Mining (Epic EPC 25525)
R.E.M. Murmur (R.S. SP 70604)

In his recent celebration of Mick Jagger's fortieth birthday, published in *The Times*, Pete Townshend, leader of the Who, asked the age-old question: is pop music art? He decided that, yes, it was, with certain qualifications: generations of pop musicians breathed a sigh of relief.

But now that pop music is back in fashion, both bands and their followers are more concerned with the image of the purveyors than with the product itself. You can't sound right if you don't look right. Where would the Beatles have been without Dougie Millings's suits?

There is nothing intrinsically wrong with this emphasis. Unfortunately, very often now the look of a band is used as the reason for attacking their music. In certain quarters the excellent JoBoxers are anathema because of their look, which is five parts Bowery Boy and five parts *fin de siècle* street urchin. Beneath the jokey, tough-guy exteriors, they are serious musicians.

Their debut album, *Like Gangbusters*, is packed full of hard, tight, jazzy rhythms, and the band does far more than pay lip-service to a host of influences, ranging from Louie Jordan to Joe Meek, while still sounding contemporary. Anyone who already owns their trio of singles, "Boxerbeat", "Just Got Lucky", and "Johnny Friendly", may feel short-changed when they find them duplicated here, but that is a minor disappointment when one considers the merits of numbers such as "Crosstown Walk Up" or "Fully Booked".

UB40's accurately titled *Labour of Love* borrows its imagery from the first period of reggae. The record is a collection of cover songs first recorded by artists between 1969 and 1972. As they put it: "Reggae before it was discovered by cops, sociologists and TV producers. Before it was claimed by lefties, liberals, punks and Rastas."

Labour of Love goes some way towards undermining the image of UB40 as rather boring Rastas and sociologists themselves. They deserved to hit number one with their cover of Tony Tribe's cover of Neil Diamond's "Red Red Wine", and their versions of "She Caught the Train" and "Keep on Moving" are similarly successful. Less so are the two best-known numbers, UB40's updated keyboard sound tributes to Jimmy Cliff's "Many Rivers to Cross", while percussionist Norman Hassan never does the Slickers' "Johnny Too Bad" justice.

Otherwise UB40 have made a

credible and pleasant journey back in time. A good record for living up to white middle-class parties.

Not so Public Image Ltd's 12-in two-pack *Live in Tokyo*. PIL are the property of John Lydon (Rotten as was), a man you would expect to know as much about the power of pop imagery as anyone, having practically redefined it as singer with the Sex Pistols. But after the initial PIL triumphs, Lydon has faded out and lost his way in New York exile.

There are moments of interest on "Bad Life", when Lydon uses his vocal talents, and his rhythm section does a fair impersonation of mid-period Talking Heads.

The American West Coast band Rank and File are led by Tony and Chip Kinman, formerly frontmen for the Dils. The Kinmans have turned from punk to country rock on *Sundown*, perhaps recognizing that American country music is the white man's blues. Their



Acting tough: JoBoxers, serious musicians hiding behind a jokey exterior

songs contain a bit of Johnny Cash, a pinch of Waylon Jennings. The rest is completely their own.

One of the best things on *Sundown* is the variety of vocal approaches, from the Tex-Mex rocking radio attack of "Amanda Ruth" to the moody atmospherics of "Coyote" and the intriguing "The Conductor Wore Black". Rank and File's

adventurous handling of an enduring form does them credit.

The two best albums of the current batch are notable for defying any fashionable conventions and are thus the most experimental and satisfying. The *Soul Mining* is the brainchild of Matt Johnson. A reclusive figure who concentrates on confessional lyrics and highly developed melodies,

Johnson is an extremely gifted young man in all respects.

Soul Mining digs deep, uncovering new seams of ethnic pop and electronics. Instrumentally, nothing seems beyond Johnson's reach, from hard jazz and African chants to wistful British romance. The results are entirely original.

R.E.M.'s *Murmur* is just as good, though for different reasons. R.E.M. have been compared with some justification to the Byrds and the Beau Brummels. Lead singer Michael Stipe is the best country pop singer to emerge from Georgia since Gram Parsons.

Like the B52s, R.E.M. are from Athens, Georgia; unlike the B52s, they look like utterly normal boys next door. But *Murmur* is far from ordinary. Songs such as "Moral Kiosk" and "Talk About the Passion" make it obvious that R.E.M. are not playing this one for laughs.

Enigmatic and engrossing, the songs tell compact tales, picking up obscure wavelengths on "Radio Free Europe" and entering a nightmare world on "Piggyback". At other times the band shifts gears through the beautiful love songs "Perfect Circle" and "We Walk". Maybe Pete Townshend was right.

Richard Williams

Max Bell

Piercing fragments from the gutter

Tom Waits *Swordfishtrombones* (Island LPS 9762)
Billy Joel *An Innocent Man* (CBS 25544)
Clarence Clemons *Rescue* (CBS 25699)

Lying in the gutter of some fading Timeslow side street, dimly perceiving the stars through a pungent whisky haze, Tom Waits is popular music's most convincing character actor.

Coming on the heels of his beautifully-crafted soundtrack to Francis Coppola's ill-starred *One From the Heart*, *Swordfishtrombones* finds him refining his beatnik-raps and low-life laments through a more abrasive and fragmentary approach: the clanking, clattering arrangement of "Underground" suggests

gests Captain Beefheart's off-centre whimsy; "16 Shells from a 30.6" updates the harsh, dark surrealism of Howlin' Wolf; the bare-wires blues of "Gin Soaked Boy" refers to the sophisticated primitivism of John Lee Hooker; and the melody of "Town With No Cheer" wanders disconsolately within a fly-blown setting provided by harmonium, bagpipes and synthesized harmonium.

More familiar textures are encountered during "In the Neighbourhood", one of his ballads of quiet desperation; the laconic, finger-popping monologue of "Frank's Wild Years"; and the title song, which sets its chilling *Taxi Driver*-style scenario ("He came home from the war with a party in his head and a idea for a fireworks display") against the calm menace of

marimba and string bass. Waits's improving control of his astonishing voice, part terminal groan and part manic cackle, helps this to become the most striking and challenging recording of his career so far.

An Innocent Man is Billy Joel's *These Foolish Things*, his *Pin-Ups*, his *Moodswing's* *Maintenance*: a recital of the music which shaped his adolescence. Where he departs from the format adopted by Bryan Ferry, David Bowie and The Band is in his insistence on writing new material designed to evoke the past.

Homages to Stax, Leiber and Stoller, the Motown girl groups, and the doo-wop styles of Philadelphia and New York (brilliantly contrasted in the juxtaposition of "The Longest Time" and "This Night") are

topped by "Uptown Girl", a lovingly perfect recreation of the Four Seasons in their mid-1960s. Joel's gaucheness ensures the presence of a couple of duds but he has undoubtedly benefited from the self-imposition of conceptual focus.

Clarence Clemons, the monolithic saxophonist with Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, has used his holidays to make an album with his own part-time outfit, the Red Bank Rockers. It has predictably echoes of King Curtis, Junior Walker and the Memphis Horns surrounding modern production techniques.

Rescue helps to fill the void until Clemons's employer decides to release his overdue *Born in the USA* set.

PREVIEW Theatre



Actor-producer: Hywel Bennett

Critics' choice

ARDEN OF FAVERHAM (The Pit (828 8795))
Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory with *Twelfth Night* (today at 2pm and 7.30pm), *Mollie* by Bulgakov (Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm) and *Lear* (see below). Terry Hands's gripping and perceptive production of the anonymous Elizabethan murder drama reveals it as a fascinating enigmatic classic. Jenny Agutter and Robert O'Mahoney play the adulterous couple whose attempts to kill her husband (Christopher Benjamin) combine pathos with agreeably black humour.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT
Lyric Hammersmith (741 2311)
Until Oct 15, Mon-Sat 7.45pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm and Sat at 4pm.
Redirection with a superb cast including Michael Pennington and Paola Dionisotti, this production by Yuri Lyubimov of the Taganka Theatre, Moscow, is an exceptional theatrical event.

Out of Town

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory Theatre (021 238 4455). *Dear Anyone* by Don Black, music by Geoff Stephens, book by Jack Rosenblatt. Until Oct 8, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm and Sat at 4pm. Jane Lapotaire, Peter Bleth, Stephanie Voss and Stubby Kaye in a musical about a newspaper Agony Aunt and her clients.

BRIGHTON: Theatre Royal (0273 28488). *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekhov. Opens Mon. Until Oct 8, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm; Fri Oct 8, Mon-Fri at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm. Lindsey Anderson directs Joan Plowright, Frank Finlay, Bernard Miles, Frank Grimes, Bill Fraser, Leslie Phillips in a production due in the West End of London soon.

BRISTOL: Theatre Royal, Old Vic (0272 24380). *What the Butler Saw* by Joe Orton. Until Oct 22, Mon-Wed at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Thurs at 3pm, Sat at 4pm.
Michael Burrill and Ian Lindsay lead in famous black farce, directed by Philip Groot.

Hywel Bennett has spread his talent liberally throughout the dramatic world since he made his debut with the National Youth Theatre as Ophelia in *Hamlet*, dividing his career between the theatre, television and films, and directing several plays as well.

Now he is adding the role of producer to his credits by presenting jointly with the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, a new play by William Humber, *Fly Away Home*.

Humber sent the script to Bennett, because he believed

the actor would be right for the main character. Bennett read it and liked it. "I did not know William Humber, but I was intrigued that he should send the play to me. I was impressed by the quality of the writing, its freshness, and decided to put my money where my mouth was and put the play on."

He bought the rights and found a director, Peter James of the Lyric, and they decided to stage the play in the 150-seat Lyric Studio theatre.

Fly Away Home is about a marriage seen in flashback from

the late 1960s to the present day. It shows the struggle - and failure - of the husband (played by Bennett) to grow up within the marriage and cope with the compromises it forces on him. "It is not really a comedy, although it is called that. It is very funny, but it is also serious", Bennett explains.

Christopher Warman

Fly Away Home opens at the Lyric Studio on Oct 10 at 7pm with previews from Thurs at 8pm. (741 2311). It runs until Nov 5.

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS (Cottesloe (828 2252))
Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory with *The Fawn* (today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm), *Two Inches of Ivory* (Wed at 2.30pm and 7.30pm) and *Beggar's Opera* (Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm).

David Mamet's menacing account of the shark-eat-sprat world of US real estate salesmen has a resonance that spreads wide; a cast including Jack Shepherd and Tony Haygarth in top form do it justice.

LEAR (The Pit (828 8795))
Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. Probably his greatest play, Edward Bond's grim prophetic fantasy on themes from *King Lear* is even more compelling in this close-quarters studio setting. Squeamish viewers need a tortuous warning: otherwise *Goleb* and the cast promise a provocative, very rewarding experience.

A MOON FOR THE MISBEHAVING (Mammoth (236 5588))
Mon-Sat at 7.45pm.
David Leveaux's delightful and very

moving production of O'Neill's last play, a big success at the Riverside, transfers up east. Towering performances from Frances de la Tour and Ian Bannen make the most of the ripe Irish wit as well as the tragic romance.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Barbican (828 8795))
Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory with *Cyrano de Bergerac* (today at 2pm and 7.30pm), *The Tempest* (Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm) and *Macbeth* (Fri at 7.30pm).

Absolutely not to be missed, Terry Hands's production is a sheer delight and the outstanding success of the RSC's Current Barbican season. Derek Jacobi and Sinead Cusack make a Benedick and Beatrice of exceptional wit and charm.

A PATRIOT FOR ME (Haymarket (830 9832))
Until Oct 8, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Sat at 2.30pm.
John Osborne's epic about an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army, fighting his way through society to a top espionage job only

EDINBURGH: Royal Lyceum (031 223 9097). *Much Ado About Nothing*. Today at 8pm, Tues-Fri at 7.30pm. Until Oct 22, in repertory with *Henry Irving The Knight from Nowhere* by Michael Howe (Mon at 8pm).
Anne Stallybrass, Richard Kay, Russell Hunter lead cast directed by Peter Dews.

GLASGOW: Citizens (041 429 5561). *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, translated by Robert David Macdonald. Until Oct 15, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm.
Philip Prowse directs a cast including Jane Bertish, Robert Gwynn, Jill Spurrier, Sean Behan, Sharon Bourke.

MANCHESTER: Library (061 236 7110). *The Tram Driver* by Manfred Hille. Opens Tues. Until Oct 8, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm.

World premiere of a play about a schizophrenic young woman in Munich, in 1952, who is helped by a psychiatrist (himself afflicted with similar guilt) to relieve her experiences of the Second World War.

MANCHESTER: Contact (061 273 5896). *When the Wind Blows* by

Raymond Briggs. Public dress rehearsal Tues at 7.30pm; previews Wed and Thurs at 7.30pm; opens Fri at 7.30pm. Until Nov 5, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm.

Northern premiere for two-hander about the effects of a nuclear holocaust, as seen through the efforts of an elderly couple to cope, using the official Government pamphlet.

NEWCASTLE: Playhouse (0632 32421). *Katie Macdonald* by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, translated by Robert David Macdonald. Until Oct 15, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm.
Philip Prowse directs a cast including Jane Bertish, Robert Gwynn, Jill Spurrier, Sean Behan, Sharon Bourke.

NOTTINGHAM: Playhouse (0602 419419). *Mother Courage and Her Children* by Gerhart Hauptmann. Today and Fri at 7.15pm. In repertory with *Candide* by Shau (Wed and Thurs at 7.15pm, schools performance Wed at 2.15pm).
Miriam Karlin and Philip Lowrie head the cast of the play, regarded as Brecht's finest piece.

SOUTHAMPTON: Nuffield (0703 555028). *Just a Kick in the Grass*



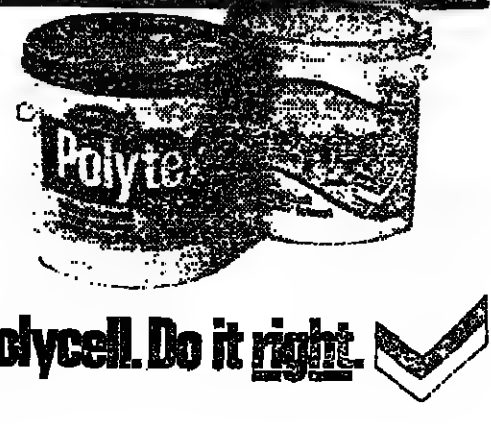
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also on page 20

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

BARTHOLOMEW FAIR: The 850th anniversary of a fair established by Royal Charter and recently revived by the Smithfield Trust. There will be medieval overtones, with strolling players, stalls and other street entertainment. The event coincides with the first issue of Post Office stamps commemorating the fair as an institution. West Smithfield, London EC1. Noon-6pm.

ROBIN AND FRENCH GENIUS: Delzac and Victor Hugo are among the 14 bronzes by Auguste Rodin in the exhibition spanning a century of French figurative sculpture. Sculptors Jean Béraud, Carpeaux, Jules Alne Dalou, Emile Antoine Bourdelle, Robert Wierick, Stephan Budin and Jean Caron complete the show. Bruton Gallery, Bruton, Somerset (074861 2205). Until Oct 22. Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm. Free.

POLITE SOCIETY: ARTHUR DEWEES 1712-1787: Exhibition devoted to the work of the Preston-born painter, highlighting his distinctive talents in portraying the English country gentleman and his family. Paintings lent from public and private collections, plus the Harris Museum's own double portrait of the painter and his wife. Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Market Square, Preston, Lancashire (0772 58248/9). Until Nov 12. Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm. Then at the National Portrait Gallery, London. Nov 25-Jan 29.

Tomorrow

FOOTBALL LIVE ON TV: Tottenham Hotspur and Nottingham Forest are the subjects of the first live television coverage of an English First Division Football League match. The cameras and commentator Brian Moore go to White Hart Lane in North London in time for the kick-off. ITV 2.30pm (except STV and Grampian regions).

SCREEN ON THE TUBE: The highlight of Norwich's first television festival are nine plays which, although usually seen only on the small screen, were made as films. They are being shown on Sundays throughout October and begin today with *Gangsters*, directed by Philip Saville. Those coming later include David Hare's *Licking Hitler* and Trevor Griffiths's *Country*. Stephen Poliakoff's *Bloody Kids*, directed by Stephen Frears, is on the weekday programme. Cinema City, St Andrew's Street, Norwich (0603 22047).

MICHAEL POWELL IN CONVERSATION: The film director talks to Ian Christie and answers questions from the audience following a screening of *Bluebeard's Castle*, Powell's film of Bartok's only opera, made in Germany in 1954. Everyman Cinema, Hampstead, London NW3 (435 1525). 3pm.

RACING AT LONGCHAMPS: England have a strong entry in the big international race, the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Time Charter, who won the King George VI and the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, is the ante-post favourite. Another English filly with a fine chance is Sun Princess who won the St Leger, the last classic of the British season. BBC 1.4.25pm.

MARCHING SONG: PLAY AND OPERA: John Whiting's play stars Michael Bryant as General Forster who, having served a seven-year prison sentence for his country's defeat in war, must now decide between suicide and a public trial. 3.7.30pm. Tomorrow, the play receives its premiere as an opera, the music by Benjamin Franklin, with Sir Charles Groves conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the Scottish National Junior Chorus. Radio 3, 8.9.30pm.

THE COVENT GARDEN READINGS: Geoffrey Hill and Willem Van Toorn open a series of stage poetry readings scattered through the autumn. To follow



Chorus line: Part of the cast of the Agamemnon from Sir Peter Hall's *The Oresteia* (see Tuesday)

are Jonathan Griffin and Jerzy Fiolek. Oct 8: Gunter Kunert, Horst Benek and Michael Hamburger. Nov 6: Mahmoud Darwish and Martin Scorsese. Nov 20 and finally R. S. Thomas and Olaf H. Hauge on Dec 11. Arts Theatre, Great Newport Street, London WC2 (836 3334). Tickets £2-23. 7.30pm.

Monday

CONTINENTAL POTTERY SALE: Dutch drug-jars, German jugs and tankards, French faience and Iberian bowls go under the hammer. There is also a large collection of Italian faience and maiolica that includes a Gubbio lustre dish painted with a scene of Apollo and Daphne in about 1525. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060) at 11am and 2.30pm.

SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AND TOYS: There are only three days left to catch this exhibition of magic lanterns, philosophers' instruments, microscopes, telescopes and optical toys - more than 200 collectors to mark the publication of Gerard Turner's book *Nineteenth Century Scientific Instruments* (Society's £37.50). The toys include a zoetrope, a forerunner of the moving picture. Society's, 1 and 2 St George Street, London W1 (493 8080). Until Wed. 9.30am-4.30pm. Free.

DANCE UMBRELLA: British and foreign companies pirouette through Britain over the next six weeks. See page 7.

HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW: This grand finale of the summer season begins tonight and continues until next Saturday at the Wembley Arena. Performances begin at 7pm, with matinees at 2pm from tomorrow. Every day there is a major show-jumping event, with the climax on Saturday, when Harvey Smith, David Broom, Malcolm Pyrah and Eddy Macken will be competing for the richest prize, the Radio Rentals Championship. Tonight there is a special gala performance in aid of the 1984 Equestrian Olympic Appeal which includes a parade of post-war British Olympic medalists. Nightly coverage on BBC1 (tonight, 9.25-10.45pm). Tickets from £12 to £3. Box office 01-902 1234.

HAY FEVER: Panoplia Keith stars in the Noel Coward comedy, which opens later in the month in London. Moray Watson, Donald Pickering

lend support, directed by Kim Grant. Richmond Theatre, Richmond-upon-Thames (044 0088). Until Oct 15. Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri at 7.45pm; Wed at 7.30pm; Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm.

TALES FROM HOLLYWOOD: The new National Theatre production, in Bristol for seven performances. Christopher Hampton's play about German writers working in Hollywood in the 1940s features Michael Gambon, Billie Whitelaw, John Bluthal, Philip Locke, Ian McDiarmid, Guy Rolfe and Barbara Flynn, directed by Peter Gill. Bristol Hippodrome (0272 299444). Until Oct 8. Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Sat at 2.30pm.

Tuesday

PARK LANE HOTEL ANTIQUES FAIR: British dealers bring furniture, paintings, jewellery, clocks, prints and textiles to the hotel's Art Deco ballroom. Among them is Mr Anthony Woodburn who will be showing two eighteenth-century longcase clocks. The two exhibitions are the Colman Collection of mustard pots and Malcolm Puskas's furnishing trimmings dating from the seventeenth century. Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, London W1 (493 6321). Today, noon-8pm; tomorrow until Oct 8, 11am-8pm; Oct 9, 11am-5pm. Admission 25p (includes catalogue).

FAST SALES: Society's sell about 1,000 lots every week, averaging £100-£150 each, in their fast sales. Today they offer Art Nouveau and European ceramics, including several Sunderland lustre plaques; tomorrow there are Chinese ceramics, watches, silver and objects of vertu. Society's, Conduit Street Gallery, London W1 (493 8080). Today, 2.30pm; tomorrow 11am and 2pm.

THE ORESTEIA: Sir Peter Hall's landmark National Theatre production of Aeschylus's trilogy goes on screen on Oct 8, preceded by two background programmes. Tonight, *Today's History* deals with the themes of blood and feud, vendetta and the rule of law in the time of Aeschylus, 6.30pm. Andrew Snell's documentary about the NT's visit to Greece to stage the production at Epidaurus is on Oct 8 at 8pm. All on Channel 4.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS: Award-winning musical, still running in New York and Los Angeles. Based on the film by Roger Corman, it has music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Howard Ashman, who directs. One of the principals is a giant plant, which "sings, dances, talks, jive and eats people". Comedy (930 8778). Previews today and until Oct 11. Opens Oct 12. Mon-Thurs at 8pm; Fri and Sat at 8.15 and 8.45pm.

SLEEPING POLICEMEN: New play by Howard Brenton and Cunda Scott, about six characters over one weekend in South London, 1983, as they are affected by local government's decisions. The Foco Novo company have asked the playwrights to present their own views of each character: two versions within the one play. On tour during October, reaching London in November. Hamel Hampstead, Hertfordshire, Old Town Hall Arts Centre (0442 64451). Until Oct 8. Tues-Sat at 8pm.

A SONG AT TWILIGHT: Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray in Noel Coward's last full-length play. An elderly emigrant author is visited by an old flame who has letters written by him in less eminent days. Connaught Theatre Worthing production. Theatre Royal, Windsor (07535 53 888). Until Oct 22. Mon-Fri at 8pm; Sat at 4.45 and 8pm; matinees (not Oct 6) Thurs at 2.50pm.

Wednesday

JEAN DUBUFFET RETROSPECTIVE: Waddington fill three of their galleries with the artist's paintings, many dating from the 1940s and 1950s: a comparable group of early works has not been seen in London since the Tate's retrospective in 1966. There will also be recent works. Waddington Galleries, 2, 4 and 34 Cork Street, London W1 (493 1886). Until Oct 29. Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm; Sat 10am-1pm. Free.

CZECH GLASS IN LONDON: The work of 11 contemporary Czech glassmakers goes on exhibition at the Glasshouse, breaching its tradition of displaying only work made on the premises. All but one of the exhibitors studied under Libensky in Prague, and the pieces demonstrate a wide range of techniques, from cold precision to soft romanticism. The Glasshouse, 65 Long Acre, London WC2 (836 9785). Until Oct 29. Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm; 11am-4pm. Free.

THE SUBJECTIVE FACTOR: Helke Sander's film follows the growth of the women's movement in Germany through the life of Anni, a working mother, who moves into a student commune in 1967 and is introduced to the ideas and political activities of the student movement. No certificate. ICA Cinematheque, Pall Mall, London SW1 (930 3647 closed Mondays).

BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE BIRTHDAY PARTY: The BFI celebrates its fiftieth anniversary with a banquet at the Guildhall, attended by its patron, The Prince of Wales, and 700 guests from film and television. These include Sir Richard Attenborough, who will receive the BFI's new Royal Charter. Between the speeches and presentations there will be a 75-minute film, *British at the Pictures*, reviewing the achievements of British cinema over the last 50 years, beginning at 7.30pm. BBC2 visits the party at 6.20pm, 7.30pm and 9.30pm.

Family Life

When children should be seen, heard and fed in style

Over the years my family's ideas of what constitutes an enjoyable outing have changed radically. But one that has remained constant is eating out at a restaurant and if we had more money, would do it at least once a week. I like eating *en famille*, believing that family that eats together has a distinctly better chance of staying together than one that doesn't. Until recently I thought this attitude was fairly typical of the middle class to which I unashamedly belong. But several incidents have persuaded me otherwise.

The first was when I suggested to some visiting friends that we should all go out to dinner to an Italian restaurant. "Take the children," said the wife incredulously. "You must be joking - we'll get a baby sitter and burgers for them and then we'll go. Most restaurants don't like children at dinner anyway."

The second occurred a few



nights ago, on a visit to a favourite Chinese restaurant. At the next table sat an American family of four - mother, father, teenage daughter and a son aged about eight, who having polished off a plateful of banana fritters, went to sleep. "Disgraceful," muttered a middle-aged woman at another table. "That child ought to be in bed." The boy's father looked up in surprise and said mildly: "Why, is he bothering you?" The woman did not reply but from the tutting that broke out all round the room I realized, to my amazement that most of the other diners agreed with her.

Had the boy been complaining, noisy or disagreeable I could have understood their reaction. But it was his mere presence that offended, illustrating an attitude that is uniquely British: children should not be seen, never mind heard. Throughout Europe and the United States, by contrast, both parents and restaurateurs regard

eating out with children as completely normal, whether it be for a gurgling Sunday lunch at a taverna or a fast food dinner. But then children are revered, or at least respected, while we believe in keeping them in their place. Restaurants are sometimes criticized for not giving a better service to parents and children - for not offering half-size, half-price portions, for the lack of

infants, but of children over the age of about seven) and assumed that their palates, appetites and place settings were as valuable as their parents'. This would probably be a marked improvement in the restaurateurs' attitudes. I am not suggesting that on crossing the threshold of a favourite eating place for an intimate candle-lit dinner one should expect to hear a fretful infant demanding its bottle or see a mother with a baby at her breast. What I do believe is that it is a good thing occasionally to take the children out for an evening meal.

After all dining is not simply a matter of ingesting food or satiating an appetite: it is - or should be - the art of conversation, of manners, of social interplay - and they cannot be acquired at the nursery table or when eating a solitary television supper with the baby-minder.

Judy Froshang

OUTINGS

From today, Sat and Sun mornings Courses in painting, collage and puppetry for five-to-seven-year-olds - are 11am-1pm on Sundays, starting tomorrow, until Oct 23, then from Nov 13 to Dec 4. Children will be taught to experiment with a variety of techniques and materials. For seven-to-eleven-year-olds, there is a course of children's crafts on Saturday, starting today, until Dec 10, 10.30am-12.30pm. This will include clay modelling and card construction and colouring. Fees for the painting course are £10 for each four-week session, £20 for the crafts course.

PEARLY HARVEST FESTIVAL St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London, WC2. Tomorrow from 3pm. Free. There may be fewer pearly kings, queens, princesses than there were when great-grandmother was a girl, but most of those who keep the tradition alive will be attending the service, dressed in their amazing outfits. Get to the church early if you want a seat.

EMBROIDERY '83 York City Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, York (0904 29839). Thurs to Nov 8. Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-4.30pm. Adult £1, child 50p. The exhibition, organized by the

York Minster Broderers' Guild, contains 131 items, from richly embroidered capes and vestments to more unusual works. Among the more unusual exhibits will be an American quilt embroidered to tell the tale of *Little Women*.

GOOSE FAIR Forest Recreation Ground, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham, Thurs, Fri and Oct 8 noon-midnight. Free. One of the oldest fairs in the country. Though greatly commercialized in recent years, with all the usual fairground attractions from dippers to whippers, it retains something of its traditional flavour.

Chess

Luck meets logic in the looking-glass

Swiss system tournaments have achieved remarkable popularity in the last 20 years. Invented by one Dr J. Muller of Brugg in 1895 they were first used in Zurich but were soon abandoned by the Swiss and only started to attract a real following after the Second World War. It is easy to see why they are popular, particularly in English-speaking countries. The method of play by which one meets an opponent with either the same or a similar score owes much to chance. The weaker or the less experienced players can hope to meet the stronger or more experienced opponent, at least for a round or two. It is a confident and somewhat aggressive attempt to introduce an element of luck or chance into an otherwise logical game and has a sort of mathematical fantasy and paradox that appeals in particular to Anglo-Saxons.

Lewis Carroll would have approved of the Swiss system and the game of chess that is played throughout *Alice Through the Looking Glass* may well be part of a vast Swiss system tournament, with, say, 100,000 frog footmen playing an accelerated Swiss in the fortnight we normally give to the British championship.

The main reason for its appeal is that it allows a large number of players to play in a comparatively short tournament. And since the prizes are considerable many grandmasters and masters take part, thereby allowing weak or less experienced players to meet really great chess-players, if only for one brief game.

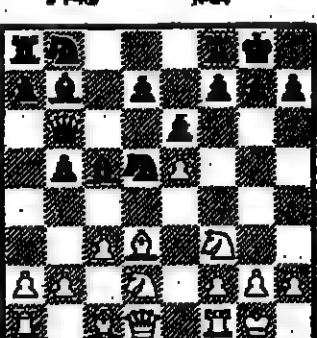
It should be observed that, provided some simple and straightforward rules are obeyed, the Swiss system is just as accurate as the all-play-all tournament - some, indeed, would say more accurate. It is only when these rules are bent or discarded in order, for example, to allow players to obtain master or grandmaster norms that we get results that do not reflect the respective strength of the players.

A good example of a well-conducted Swiss system tournament was the recent Benedictine International that was played at Allen Hall in Manchester last month. Under the accomplished direction of Richard Furness the arbiters

closely observed the rules and the best player on the day, international master Jim Plaskett, won the first prize of £600 and so achieved his second grandmaster norm this year. Plaskett's progress was a curious one. He started by scoring a not particularly impressive 2 out of 4 and then reeled off win after win to gain first prize with 7 points out of 9. His series of five wins included defeats of grandmasters Ivkov and Kraidman and international masters Short and Gutman. Now he needs only one more grandmaster norm, but one achieved in an all-play-all tournament, to obtain the grandmaster title.

Much interesting chess was played at Allen Hall. Here, from the sixth round, is a nice illustration of the power of the so-called "Greek gift" combination which is always likely to occur when a player cannot get his Knight to KB3.

White: J. E. Tarjan. Black: J. M. Hodgson. Enlarged Queen's fianchetto Defence.



Black has to make a difficult decision here owing to the somewhat eccentric development he has chosen. A preferable line here was 6... P-B5, 7 B-B2 P-Q3.

But this is a mistake as White soon demonstrates. If, cannot, however, play 8... P-Q3, on account of 9 P-Q4 so the best move would seem to be 8... P-Q4.

Or 13... N-QB3: 14 Q-R7 ch, K-N; 15 N-K4 db ch K-N; 16 P-R3 mate.

Black then resigns because of 18 N-B; 19 B-N5 ch K-K; 20 Q-N4 ch K-Q; 21 Q-R1 ch and mate or win of much material soon follows.

Harry Golombek

Bridge

Computer wizardry comes up trumps

Those two bitter rivals Horace Partridge and the mathematical bore, and the once more Gerard Carp were once more in opposition. It was an unequal contest, because Partridge had cut Charles Grandace, the club expert, while Carp had drawn Dolly Waterflow, who believed that bridge, like knitting, was a distraction which could be pursued without interfering with normal conversation. Rubber Bridge. Dealer North. Game all.

W	N	E	S
Carp	Partridge	Waterflow	Grandace
10	16	No	28
No	40	No	4NT
No	50	No	60

Carp led the ♠A and continued with the ♠10, despite his partner's ♠2. After some reflection, Grandace cashed the ♠A and ruffed a club with the ♠3. When Carp discarded a heart on the ♠A, Grandace stopped to work out if there was any distribution that would allow him to overcome the bad trump break.

"Charles, you look tired," said Dolly. "Probably because you're overdoing it in the garden. This rain has caused endless problems with my pelargonium cuttings even though I'm lucky enough to have sandy soil."

Grandace gallantly tried to retain his concentration. Eventually he played the ♠J, covered by Carp's ♠Q and won with dummy's ♠A. When Dolly covered with the ♠9 and Grandace cashed the ♠K and countered dummy with the ♠9. He cashed the ♠K, discarding his losing heart. When he played a diamond, Dolly's apparently certain trump trick disappeared.

"Declarer played with extraordinary prescience," said Partridge. "The risk of sustaining an

overrun was only 2.8558 per cent and it was an essential preliminary to overcoming the adverse trump break which has an expectancy of 3.930 per cent. Of course, declarer also had to envisage that the only diamond distribution that would permit him to succeed was precisely Q10 alone in the West hand."

"Good gracious me," said Dolly. "You don't mean to tell me that you worked all that out, Charles? Of course he didn't," said Carp. "He was far too busy picking up some invaluable gardening tips."

Until now those who wished to learn how to play bridge have had to choose between books, schools, or instruction from long-suffering friends.

Bridge Master is a new concept devised by Jonathan Keyne, a computer wizard with the bridge expertise supplied by Terence Reese. The package, which can be used with the ZX, ZX81 16K, and ZX81 1K Sinclair computer, contains a commentary tape, a computer tape, an instruction booklet containing the 36 hands and an independent guide for the novice written by Terence Reese.

"It is very easy to assemble," Keyne explained breezily, as he showed it to me. "Anyone can do it." After I had fumbled ineffectually for a few moments, he amended his claim to "almost anyone". But I must admit that, confronted with anything mechanical, I have eight thumbs. The graphics, which are displayed on your television screen, are admirably clear, and there is no doubt that this is a most amusing way of learning the game.

They used to say that you were growing older when policemen appeared young. A more modern test would turn on your love or hatred of computers. With a slight reservation about the price (£24.95), I can unhesitatingly recommend Bridge Master to "boys and girls" of all ages who already own a Sinclair computer.

Jeremy Flint

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 702.8 up 2.9

FT 100: 81.88 down 0.02

Bargains: 21,200

FT All Shares: 445.53 down 1.33

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Index: 100.31 up 0.9

New York: Dow Jones

Average: 1233.0 down 7.5

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones

Index: 9,402.59 down 30.02

Hongkong: Hang Seng

Index: 758.33

Amsterdam: 152.0 down 0.3

Sydney: AO Index: 717.9

down 3.8

Frankfurt: Commerzbank

Index: 899.00 down 2.20

Bremen: General Index

131.89 up 0.1

Paris: CAC Index: 139.7 up

0.4

Zurich: SKA General: 285.5

up 0.5

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

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Dollars

Index: 127.0 down 0.4

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NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling: \$1.4995

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INTERNATIONAL

ECU: 57.4833

SDR: 70.465

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates

Bank base rate: 9%

Finance houses base rate: 10%

Discount market loans: week

fixed 9% - 9 1/2%

3 month interbank: 9 1/4% - 9 1/2%

Euro-currency rates

3 month dollar: 9 1/4% - 9 1/2%

3 month DM: 5 1/4% - 5 1/2%

3 month FF: 14% - 14 1/4%

US rates

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Treasury long bond: 10 1/4% - 10 1/2%

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\$95-96 (\$63.50-64.25)

*Excludes VAT

Call for closure

of BSC mill

The European Commission

wants Britain to close one of its

three hot strip steel mills to

achieve its share of the planned

EEC cuts in capacity.

Mr. Frans Andriessen, the

EEC Commissioner for Competition,

did not say which mill the

Commission would like to

see closed. The hot strip mills -

an important part of the

steelmaking industry - are at

Ravenscraig, Llanwern and Port

Talbot.

Britain is scheduled to reduce

its steelmaking capacity by a

further 500,000 tons in the

latest round of efforts to cut

EEC capacity by 28 million tons

by 1985. The Government has

no plans to close any of the BCS

works.

Hard Rock Cafe, the London

hamburger restaurant, is

going public via an over-the-

counter listing through Harvard

Securities. Two of the founders

are selling 25 per cent of the

shares to raise £1.2m at 30p a

share. The profits forecast is for

£350,000. Expansion plans

through franchises are in hand.

Mr. Rupert Murdoch, publisher

of The Times, has bought

about 1 million shares in

Warner Communications, the

American leisure company. Mr

Murdoch denied that the

purchase of 1.6 per cent of

Warner was a prelude to a bid,

saying "it's too big for me." He

thought that at about \$20 a

share, Warner was a good buy.

Warner had fallen 70 per cent

from its peak early last year, but

traded yesterday at about

\$23.50.

Sir Nicholas Goodison,

chairman of the Stock Ex-

change is to answer questions

from members on the changes

resulting from the recent out-

court settlement with the

Government at an informal

meeting to be held on the

trading floor at 5.15pm on

Tuesday.

The US export-import

Bank's executive board yester-

day voted to authorize a \$1.5

billion lending programme for

Brazil, part of an \$11 billion

financial rescue package being

arranged for the country.

Loss of Sultan of Brunei's portfolio could increase deficit by £1.5m

Crown Agents may shed 400 jobs to survive financial crisis

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Crown Agents are planning to shed at least a quarter of their permanent staff in an effort to survive the financial crisis caused by the sudden loss of their lucrative role as investment managers to the Sultan of Brunei.

Civil Service unions have been told that between 300 and 400 of the 1,200 permanent jobs must go if the semi-independent Government agency is to have any chance of getting back onto a sound financial basis.

Many of the 100 or so staff who work in the agent's investment management division have already been sent home on full pay for lack of anything to do. But the job losses will not be confined to this division and will be spread right across the agent's diverse areas of activity.

This underlines the extent to which the profits of the Brunei portfolio management business

were subsidizing the other procurement and contractual services the agents provide for foreign governments.

While the fee for managing the £3 billion portfolio of the Sultan of Brunei accounted for less than a sixth of the agent's £31m a year income, it is believed to have contributed as much as £1.5m in profits. Without it the agents - who reported a net deficit last year of £614,000 - face severe financial difficulties and the likelihood of heavy losses in future years.

Senior officials for the Crown Agents spent yesterday afternoon at the Overseas Development Administration discussing the future of the organization with government officials. Mr Alan Flood, the agents' chief executive, said last night that the final outcome on job losses would depend on the Government.

Mr Flood denied speculation

that some of the agents' functions might be transferred to other government departments, or that the organization might be disbanded altogether.

"I have no doubt that we will survive", he said. "All the indications are that our business across the board is doing well, and I am very bullish about the prospects."

The agents have asked for volunteers to take early retirement and redundancy, but Mr Flood said it was too early to say whether there would need to be compulsory redundancies.

A spokesman for the Civil and Public Servants Association said they were waiting for a meeting with the agents to hear further details about the job losses, which they feared would be nearer 400 than 300.

The position is complicated by the different status of the agents' employees, depending

on whether they were employed before or after the agents' incorporation as a semi-independent body at the beginning of 1980.

Because many of them enjoy civil servants' status and job security, the Civil Service unions believe that the agents will not be able to pay the large sums involved in making them redundant - and that the Government will have to pick up the bill.

Last year the Crown Agents were set new financial targets by the Government, requiring them to make a current operating surplus equivalent to half a per cent of their gross income in the three years from 1982 to 1984.

According to their latest accounts, the agents made an operating surplus before interest and taxation of £1.241m last year, after a surplus of £2.28m

the previous year. But after taxation and interest payments this converted into an overall deficit.

The targets set by the Government are clearly now unattainable, and the question of the agents' financial viability is understood to have been central to the wide-ranging review of their operations that has been going on since the Sultan of Brunei removed his investment funds in the last week of July.

The Sultan, whose investment portfolio is one of the biggest in the world, is now being advised by two American banks and is setting up an independent Brunei Investment Agency.

Loss of the business comes as a severe personal blow to Sir Sidney Eburne, the former Senior Crown Agent, who is now retired.

Smith Bros directors set earnings record

By Philip Robinson

Directors of Smith Brothers, one of the stock market's only two publicly-quoted stockjobbers, earned more in bonus than salary last year.

For Mr Tony Lewis, Smith Brothers' chairman, salary plus performance-related bonuses soared from £30,000 to £105,000. He and his 12 fellow directors were paid more than £750,000 in bonuses as the group's pretax profit hit a record £3.4m for the year to last April 22.

That profit performance enabled the company to pay out a record £579,000 in salaries and bonuses, a contribution for the directors and £770,000 in bonuses.

As a result, eight directors were paid between £95,000 and £100,000 and all 12 earned more than £30,000. In the previous year the entire board earned less than £30,000 each.

The number of employees earning between £20,000 and £25,000 jumped from five to eight. Thirty-five earned more than £25,000 and nine between £25,000 and £50,000.

Mr Geoffrey Lederman, Smith Brothers' deputy chairman, said last night: "This is the

best year we have had and it was felt we should pay out these bonuses to directors. The employees have done well too."

But one director who will not share any future bonuses is Mr Stephen Lewis. He resigned during the year with a golden handshake of £75,000.

High salaries and bonuses are also on the cards for directors and senior employees at competing stockjobbers, Akroyd & Smithers. Bonuses are not declared until after its financial year finishes at the end of this month, but last year, when stock markets were far from the buoyant levels of 1983, some salaries doubled.

Last year all eight board directors earned more than £95,000 with two in the £100,000 to £105,000 bracket. The previous year board members earned half that.

The firm's senior employees pushed their earnings to record sums in 1982. Three were earning between £80,000 and £85,000. A record 76 were paid more than £30,000 against 13 in 1981 when the most earned by a senior employee was £50,000.

Smith Bros: emoluments of directors & employees year to 22-4-83

£20,001 to £30,000	£30,001 to £40,000	£40,001 to £50,000	£50,001 to £100,000
18 (15)	20 (nil)	10 (nil)	8 (nil)

Chairman £105,000 (£30,000)

Figures in brackets indicate previous year

Dow slips in early trading

New York (AP) - Dow Jones continued their gradual retreat in moderate trading. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down about 8 1/2 points to 1,231 and the transportation average was down about five to 560. But the utility average was up a fraction at 134.

Losers were 2 to 1 over

WALL STREET

advances and volume - continued moderate.

International

Machines was down 1 at 127;

Motorola was down 2 1/2 to 139;

Ford down 1/2 at 62 1/2; Data

General down 1 at 76; Standard

Oil of Ohio down 1 at 52 1/2;

Kodak up 2 at 43 1/2; Eastman

Astrak down 1/2 at 52 1/2; Walt

Electric down 1/2 at 52 1/2; Walt

General Motors up 1/2 to 73 1/2;

CBS Inc was down 4 at 73 1/2;

Pacific Scientific 2 1/2 down 3 1/2;

Merrill Lynch 3 1/2 off 1/2; Texas

Oil & Gas 4 1/2 down 3 1/2;

Bristol-Myers 4 1/2 off 1/2.

Midland to offer hedge on Liffe

By Michael Prest

The Midland Bank will on Monday become the first British institution to use the London International Financial Futures Exchange to offer corporate customers fixed sterling interest rates on deposits.

Citibank also announced yesterday that it will be offering the same service from Monday.

The move, likely to be followed by other banks and spread to other currencies such as dollars, is an attempt to show companies how to take advantage of Liffe. Most dealing on Liffe's recently completed first year has been between exchange members.

Senior sources at Midland yesterday said customers will be offered a three-month rate inclusive of the bank's charges. In other words, the rate will be slightly below the cash market rate. The service will be quoted on the Reuters monitor screen under the code MDL.

The bank will cover its exposure to changing interest rates by hedging through Liffe's

short-term sterling interest rate contract. Midland was a founder member of the exchange.

If the experiment works the service will be extended to six-month deposits, and for the initial three-month contract the minimum deposit will be £250,000 and the maximum £1m.

While some of Liffe's contracts, notably the gilts and Eurodollar interest rate contracts, have enjoyed brisk business, use of the three-month sterling contract appears to have waned lately.

Part of Midland's purpose, other than bringing in business, is to stimulate corporate interest in Liffe. Midland sources said a demonstration of confidence in Liffe by banks may be more effective in arousing corporate interest than abstract education of potential users.

American banks have long offered fixed dollar interest rates hedged through Chicago.

Hot summer pushes sales ahead of projections

Beer production jumps

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Beer production jumped 15.6 per cent in August, more than the industry expected even though the hot summer put so much sparkle into sales.

It pushed totals in the first eight months up 1.5 per cent in a year when brewers expected at best to equal last year's production.

Even if subsequently there is a sharp fall back in production levels - as is being indicated for September on early reports from the trade - it could mean increased profit margins for brewers.

But the Brewers' Society is sticking to its forecast for the calendar year of production at about last year's levels.

The Society said: "Beer stocks in retail outlets were low

after a hot July. Now the pipeline is full again, accounting for part of the August increase."

Sales in August on this reading were below the rate of production, just as in July sales would have been above those of production.

The August production figures also reflect the big upsurge in larger sales. Some trade reports indicated that larger sales were up by at least a third during the hot weather.

Good summers in the past have tended to permanently raise larger sales, and it could mean that larger, currently accounting for a third of the beer market, will this year gain several full percentage points of market share.

There are two other pointers on brewers' profit margins. Most brewers have brought in price rises which average 3 per cent although the trend is to make only annual increases.

Against that, prices of malting barley look like rising by at least 10 per cent, with the overall barley harvest down between 8 and 10 per cent down, but the price of hops has barely moved.

Trade reports indicate patchy sales patterns in the past month. The North Midlands and the North West have had indifferent sales since the hot spell ended but areas like Yorkshire and Humberside and the West Midlands appear to be less affected, with reasonable sales in the south.

BTG must dispose of its investments

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government yesterday hammered the last few nails into the coffin of the National Enterprise Board. Labour's proud spearhead of industrial rejuvenation, with a clear indication that it expected its portfolio of investments in almost 60 companies to be sold as early as possible.

The NEB was merged with the National Research Development Corporation in 1980 to form the British Technology Group and the latter's new role, defined yesterday by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will be to concentrate upon technology transfer.

Although no time scale has been imposed by Mr Parkinson, it is clear that most of the old NEB investments will be sold within a year. Some have already been disposed of, but the biggest problem is Innos, the silicon chip manufacturer, in which the BTG has invested £65m and in which it urgently needs a tranche of private finance.

Mr Parkinson's statement, which follows 15 months of uncertainty at the BTG, said

that the new role "will be to assist the translation into commercial products of new research ideas, particularly those from the public sector where the Government is the ultimate owner of the industrial property."

The review of the BTG had taken place in the context of the need to ensure that maximum advantage was taken of the commercial potential of successful British research and development.

A financial structure for the group is yet to be finalized and will follow consideration by the government of a new BTG corporate plan. The group will be allowed to retain the funds it receives from technology transfer activities but the income from disposals could be re-directed to the Treasury. The objective is to make the BTG self-financing.

The NEB and NRDC remain subject to separate statutes and Sir Freddie Wood, the outgoing BTG chairman, said later that the board would ask the Government to legalize the group's position as soon as possible.

Prolific

TECHNOLOGY TRUST
Invest in the companies of the future through the No.1 technology trust

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

as 29th September 1983

Company	Value	Company	Value
Computer Electronics	10%	Computer Software	10%
Electronics	10%	Computer Systems	10%
Microprocessors	10%	Computer Peripherals	10%
Software	10%	Computer Services	10%
Hardware	10%	Computer Hardware	10%
Telecommunications	10%	Computer Networks	10%
Artificial Intelligence	10%	Computer Graphics	10%
Robotics	10%	Computer Aided Design	10%
Biotechnology	10%	Computer Simulation	10%

Invest in the Healthcare Revolution.

**OFFER CLOSES
OCTOBER 7th 1983**

Most of us invest in Healthcare—as potential patients. We pay NHS contributions. More and more take out medical insurance, and pay attention to diet and fitness. Along with food, clothing and shelter, Healthcare is an essential element for survival in human life.

From a less personal point of view, Healthcare is also increasingly an essential element in the world economy. In Britain we spend over 5% of our entire National Product on Healthcare. In Japan the figure is 5.8% and in the United States it is more than 10%. These figures greatly exceed what we spend on education and vie with defence for top place.

Not only is expenditure on Healthcare very large; it is growing. We are now advancing the frontiers of medical knowledge daily; and as we do so, we bring new

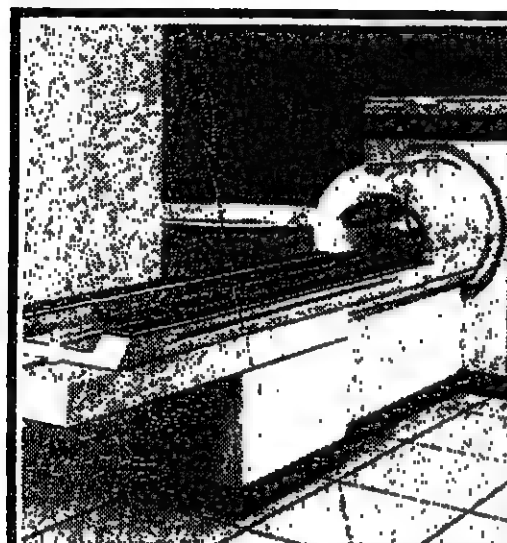


treatment, prevention and relief where it never existed before. All this costs increasingly large sums of money—money which people all over the world are prepared to find and spend, whether through taxes, insurance or privately.

Moreover, the steady increase in Healthcare expenditure is not affected by economic cycles; people's Healthcare needs do not change during a recession.

The Healthcare sector has been described as the 'classic recession-proof investment'. Nowhere does the opportunity for intelligent investment appear more strongly based.

All the more surprising, then, that Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust is the first UK authorised unit trust to invest exclusively in Healthcare. It thus offers a unique opportunity.



There are four main sectors within the industry:

1. Facilities

Spending on Healthcare facilities is rising in North America, the Far East, the Middle East and in Europe, be it on hospitals, nursing homes for the elderly, clinics for the psychiatrically disturbed, specialist units for the treatment of drug and alcohol abuse, convalescent homes or gymnasia for fitness.

Investor-owned medical facilities are a major factor in this expansion, and some of these offer investment opportunities of the highest quality.

The demand worldwide is for a modern and caring service, and for cost efficiency. Whether funds are provided by the State or by public investment, the consumer will demand a rising quality of service. Those companies that contribute to it will prosper. Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust will invest in such companies.

2. Drugs and Treatment

Today, hundreds of thousands of people around the world are treated by prescription for illnesses which as little as ten years ago would have required hospitalisation. The cost-saving arguments for ever greater investment in research by pharmaceutical companies are compelling. Government regulatory bodies understand well the need for a reasonable return on investment so that funds continue to be available for the next generation of discovery.

Twenty-one years ago two scientists, one British and one American, were awarded the Nobel prize for developments in genetic engineering. Their discovery not only created a potentially huge new industry but led to expressions such as 'genetic engineering' and 'cloning' becoming commonplace. Under laboratory conditions it is possible to clone blood or even skin.



Photographs: B.B.C. Central Library, Nursing Times, Pictorial International.

Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust will be investing in such pioneering areas of the future, as well as in more established pharmaceutical companies—from Japan to the United Kingdom, from Switzerland to North America.

3. Equipment

Detached retinas can now be fixed by laser and severed limbs sewn back by micro-surgery. These examples are the most recent public demonstrations of a further medical revolution, this time in the area of equipment manufacture.

Again, over a very short period of time, the miraculous has become commonplace and commercial. The blind, by wearing a special vest, can 'see' well enough to assemble micro-circuits; the expectant mother knows more about her unborn child through sonar techniques; and electromagnets scan the body

more accurately and safely than any X-ray. Diagnostic equipment continues to evolve as rapidly as pharmaceuticals; the manufacture of artificial joints and limbs becomes ever more sophisticated; recalcitrant fractures can be fused by electromagnetic therapy.

Investing in medical equipment companies can be hazardous. The pace of development is fast and this year's breakthrough can be obsolete next year. Investment management skill is vital. The managers of Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust believe they have the experience to exercise such skill.

4. Support Services

Medical care does not exist as an entity in isolation. Hospitals would soon grind to a halt without catering or laundry services, without supplies of materials or clinical laboratory testing services. As expenditure on Healthcare grows so the cost to governments, insurance companies, employers and individuals rises; and the demand is then for greater efficiency. Thus the provision of efficient computer-based facilities is one of the fastest growing areas of the entire Healthcare sector. Admissions, patient records, financial controls, stock controls and communication systems all lend themselves to cost-saving computer-controlled handling.

This revolution may not seem so obvious in the UK until you remember the way in which the NHS is increasingly being asked to look at its costs, and to consider privatisation of services, be it for cleaning and catering or for contracting out actual patient operations.

The world of Healthcare is constantly innovative but cannot survive without its basic infrastructure. This need creates the opportunity for intelligent investment.

First Unit Trust of its kind.

For all the attractions of the Healthcare sector, selecting the investment which will be successful is not easy.

Many of them are based overseas and up-to-date information will constantly be necessary as the rapid pace of development in Healthcare progresses.

The launch of Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust provides the first opportunity for unit trust investors to participate directly in this industry. It is the first British unit trust of this kind.

The objective of the trust is to achieve maximum capital growth for investors—income is not an important consideration and the initial starting yield is estimated at just 0.01% p.a.

Initially around 60% of the trust's portfolio will be invested in the USA, with a further 20% going into Japan and 20% into Europe. Up to 5% of the fund may be invested in private companies when suitable opportunities present themselves. The Managers will draw upon existing close contacts in the

USA and upon the expertise of Henderson Baring Management Ltd. in Japan in identifying prospective investments.

The managers are confident that this new trust is exceptional in terms of its potential for successful investment.

You can invest at the fixed launch offer price of 50p. Simply return the application form below, either direct or through your professional adviser. Offer closes Oct 7th 1983.

Remember that the price of units and income from them can go down as well as up.

Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust.

Additional Information

An initial charge of 5% on the assets (equivalent to 5% of the issue price) is made by the managers when units are issued. Out of the initial charge, the managers pay remuneration to qualified intermediaries; rates are available on request. The Trust Deed provides for an annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) on the value of the Trust to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs.

Distributions of income will be paid on 4th October each year. The first distribution will be paid on 4th October 1984. Half-yearly reports on the progress of the Fund will be issued in April each year. Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within eight weeks of payment. To sell units endorse your unit certificate and send it to the managers. Payment will normally be made within seven working days.

Unit Trusts are not subject to capital gains tax; moreover a unit holder will not pay tax on a disposal of units unless the total realised gains from all sources in any tax year amount to more than £5,300. Prices and yield can be found daily in the Financial Times. Trustee: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Managers: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 26 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DA (Registered Office) Reg. No. 856263. A member of the Unit Trust Association. The Henderson Group also manages Pension Funds, Investment Trusts, Off-shore Funds, Exempt Trusts and Private Client Portfolios. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

To: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, Dealing Department, 5 Kaysleigh Road, Hutton, Breatwood, Essex CM13 1AA. Tel: 0277 317233.

I/We wish to buy _____ units in Henderson Global Healthcare Unit Trust at the fixed price of 50p per unit (minimum initial investment £500).

I/We enclose remittance of £ _____ payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited.

This offer will close on 7th October 1983. After the close of this offer, units will be available at the daily quoted price. SHARE EXCHANGE SCHEME. Our Share Exchange Scheme provides a favourable way to switch into this Unit Trust. For details please tick box or telephone K. G. Oliver, our Share Exchange Manager on 01-638 5757.

(If there are joint applicants each must sign and attach names and addresses separately.)

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____

First Name(s) _____

Address _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Henderson. The Investment Managers.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Manager Investments
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £22,000 (£114,000)
Turnover £21.4m (£48.7m)

Triplevest
Half-year to 31.8.83
Pretax revenue £1.4m (£1.8m)
NAV 745.75p (£28.25p)
Net interim dividend 4.014p (4.145p)

Longman, part of S Pearson,
has acquired Federal Publications of Washington for \$8.5m. It specializes in publications on construction contracting and Government procurement.

British Home Stores is to establish 21 home electronics departments in its top stores.

A & C Black is buying the publishing assets of EP Publishing. The price, still to be determined, is not expected to exceed £1.15m.

K O Boardman International Loamport has acquired 5.5 million shares on behalf of Mr. B. Tomlinson and Mr. J. Humphreys from Wragg. The balance of Wragg's holding — 880,000 shares — is being placed with clients of Montagu Loeb Stanley.

Automated Security (Holdings) has acquired Tag Radionics holding in Securitag International and the right to payments from Securitag Systems of Florida.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		NICKEL		SHORT STERLING	
Rubber in 5's per tonnet		Dec	3090-3100	Dec	107.5
Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per		Jan	3100-3110	Jan	107.5
class-off in US per metric ton		Feb	790	Feb	107.5
		Mar		Mar	107.5
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		Jul		Jul	107.5

● New bonds

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

● Car cover

Travel success

Nationwide Building Society is claiming tremendous success for its new TravelMoney service. Customers can obtain Thomas Cook travellers' cheques and 12 foreign currencies through Nationwide's branches. Convenience must be the appeal as the normal commission of 1 per cent of travellers' cheques while clients of Leeds Permanent, Leicester and Coventry Economic societies can all obtain travellers' cheques commission free. It is worth opening an account with one of the societies offering commission free travellers' cheques if you are a regular traveller, or if there are several members of your family who take foreign holidays.

Roll-up funds fear

Investors in these Channel Island roll-up funds which are invested in short-dated financial securities should be wary about their investments. The Chancellor has said he will bring in legislation in the next Budget to tax investors in all roll-up funds on an income tax basis rather than at capital gains tax rates. Some people think that the funds which invest in short-dated paper will

escape the Chancellor's net. Others point out that if they do not, then the longer you stay in the fund as it approaches the end of December the less well you are likely to do. The manager of the fund, in order to obtain liquidity may well be obliged to realise their investments earlier than they intended, and not receive such a good return. On this basis those who opt out first will get the best deal.

Bond check

If you have British Savings Bonds lurking at the back of your bureau, drag them out and check. National Savings 8½% British Savings Bonds issued on August 15, September 1 and September 15, 1978 are reaching maturity and no interest is payable after the maturity date. National Savings will have sent a notice to holders yesterday together with a form of application for repayment. Any holder who does not receive this form with the notice within a reasonable time should contact the Bonds & Stock Office, Blackpool, Lancs FY3 9YP.

Consumer choice

Leeds Permanent Building Society is trying to find out what investors and borrowers really want from their building

society. Selected clients are going to be asked how they rate the service they are already receiving, and what Leeds should be offering that it is not.

"We have initiated this research because of the wide range of products, which although vital to attract the necessary funds for lending, may have complicated the market from the consumers' point of view", Mr John Roberts of Leeds commented. Leeds might well discover that what building society members really want is for the societies to stop wasting members' money on gimmicks and expensive promotional campaigns.

Tenants buy homes

During 1982 Nationwide Building Society lent 13.4 per cent of its funds for homebuyers to those purchasing a council house. This accounted for 11,800 loans, worth £149m. Nationwide is expecting an increased demand for property from council tenants in 1984.

Guaranteed income

A one-year guaranteed income bond is on offer from financial consultants R J Temple, paying an attractive 8.25 per cent rate of basic rate tax. The bond is issued by Premium Life Assurance

Company, a British insurer, so investors are fully covered by the Policyholders Protection Act. The minimum investment is £1,000.

Branching out

Collecting money boxes to make a model village seems quite an appealing idea until you learn that one of the two available is a model of a Halifax Building Society branch office. Needless to say, the promoter of this scheme,



aimed at attracting young savers, is the Halifax Building Society which is launching its Little Xtra Club. Club members receive what the society describes as "an introductory box of goodies", a 12-page comic three times a year and a birthday and Christmas card. To qualify, new members must open a Halifax savings account.

Third and fourth moneyboxes in the series - all of which are obtainable from Halifax branch offices after joining the club - are a church and school. Why not more Halifax branch offices and give the model village an authentic look?

Dial M for money

Phone franks who are interested in investment can now dial Chase de Vere's Moneyline on 01-873 4343 and obtain brief details of fixed interest investments. The service could be useful if you just want to check that you are getting a competitive rate on your money. But it falls down in that it does not tell you which building society, or which income bond, is offering the best return.

Flexible cover

Recent developments in life assurance have produced a rash of flexible policies, designed for the customer who does not really know what sort of life policy he needs. All are hybrid policies - usually a mixture of a whole life or term contract which pays a lump sum if the policyholder dies, and a savings type contract. The latest entrant in this field is Merchant Investors with its Universal

Cover Plan, a unit-linked whole life combination. It is a convenient way of providing cover for those who do not want to think too much about life assurance. But it has the disadvantage that it is difficult to work out just how much you are being charged for the life cover and how much of your money is being saved for you.

Card campaign

American Express is going all out to persuade companies to give American Express cards to their sales forces and other expense account employees. The campaign is emphasizing the protection offered the company against misuse by employees. Provided the company takes reasonable precautions, it will not be held liable if the employee goes on an unauthorized spending spree. The big fear of employers is that an employee with a no-limit credit card will set off on a round-the-world trip at the company's expense. Amex's new "Waiver of Liability" scheme removes this possibility. Amex also believes it is one-up on the competition because it can provide the employee with a personal statement and the company financial controller with an overall statement for all employees.

Books

Survival guide to cash problems

There must be a whole generation of women who feel they have been brought up by Katharine Whitehorn. When I was a struggling student I read "Cooking in a Bedsitter". When I was coping with two babies, I took to heart her suggestion that the supplementary bottle should be for mother, not the infant. Now that I am grappling with mortgages and school fees - not to mention worrying about my pension - she has produced "How To Survive Your Money Problems" (Methuen, £3.95), a jolly and helpful guide to family finance.

Miss Whitehorn has grasped the essential point that most of us are less interested in becoming as rich as Croesus than in making it through the month without the bailiffs calling or getting a rude reprimand from the bank manager.

"There's a lot about insurance. 'Worrying about what will happen is one of the worst things about money', she says. She is particularly good on the perennial problem of how a couple should organize their finances. "It's something people ought to discuss and allow for each other's differences." She puts paid to the pious sentiments about budgeting so often trotted out in money books.

"We did it once and my husband carefully scored petrol, £10, beer, £1.40, cauliflower, 20p but then simply concluded 'Eaten by mice, £10'. The book is garnished with plenty of wry quotations: 'I'd like to live like a poor man with lots of money' - Picasso) and some very funny cartoons by Bill Tidy.



Whitehorn: putting paid to pious sentiments about budgets

Insurance

Softening the blows of vets' bills

Veterinary doctors' bills can come as a nasty shock and work out every bit as expensive as private medical treatment for people. Pet Plan Limited is using TV personality Katie Boyle to promote its scheme for insuring the cost of vets' fees.

A premium of £20 a year buys £350 cover for each accident or illness. The owner must pay the first £3.50 of each claim.

The policy also includes £100 cover for accidental death, £50 for advertising and reward if the pet goes missing, £500,000 third-party insurance and up to £50 kennel fees if the owner has to go into hospital.

Pet Plan also has two other policies, Superplan and Goldenplan, which offer similar cover but have higher premiums and sums insured.

If economy is the most important consideration, Vetex is offering veterinary fees cover only, of up to £300 per accident or illness for £16 a year. There is a £10 excess on each claim.

Pet Plan Ltd, 35 Horn Lane, London W3 9TA.
Vetex, 4th Floor, Marlow House, 610-616 Chiswick High Road, London W4.



Boyle: TV campaign

Building societies

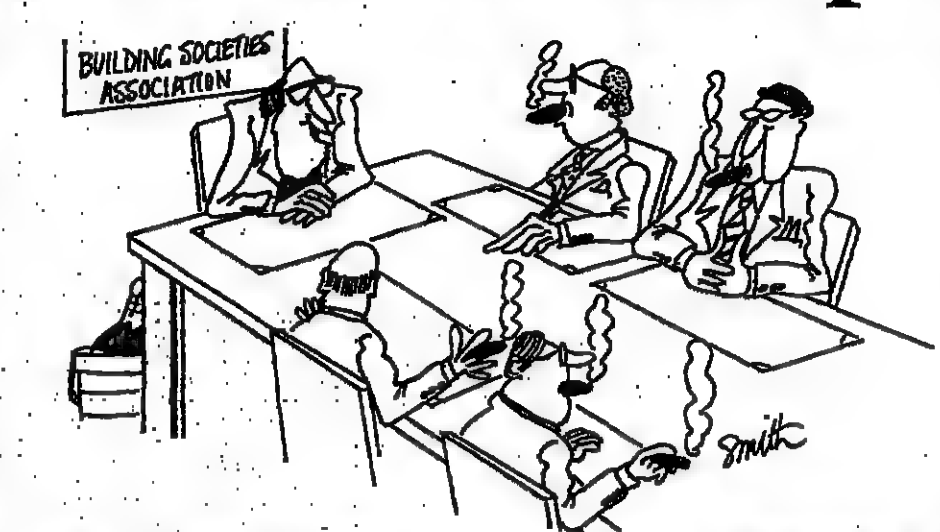
Boost for investors as cash pours in

Good news all round this week for building society savers and borrowers. As from today the big five - Halifax, Abbey National, Leeds, Nationwide and Woolwich - will be paying out more to investors on their 28 days notice (seven days with Abbey) and 90 days notice accounts. All are emphatic that no increase in mortgage rates will be necessary to pay the bill - though what happens if the new competitive thrust continues is another matter.

Meanwhile, it seems that earlier efforts to attract funds have already greatly improved the inflow of money and the "mortgage queues" are shortening with hopes of eliminating them altogether in a few months.

The Building Societies Association estimates that net receipts in September could be as much as £750m close to the highest figure on record. Nationwide believes it could be as much as £800m.

Apart from seasonal factors, the main reason is the popularity of the 9 per cent term



"I think we should remove the cigars before we release the monthly figures."

withdrawal from the interest rate cartel last month, gave one month's notice of putting up the rate on its seven day account to 8 per cent to equal what the other majors were paying on 28-day money.

Not surprising the other societies retaliated and it soon emerged that they were preparing to raise their rates to 8.25 per cent, effective from today. Abbey promptly followed suit with its own 8.25 per cent offer for seven days, effective today.

At the moment that is where things rest, with Abbey's rivals somewhat annoyed. "A rise in the mortgage rate is a possible consequence unless this situation is kept under control," says Halifax. And at the Woolwich, while they believe like the other societies, that the next interest rate move should be downwards, their spokesman notes that "what the Abbey has done is ensure that mortgages will be dearer than they otherwise would have been."

market share while doing most of the lending, at the recommended rate.

Obviously it is the mortgage holders who have to pay for this competitive spirit in the long run. They are cushioned now by the feeling among the societies that all interest rates should move downwards.

Meanwhile publicity-conscious Abbey should be restrained by having gone strongly on record as expecting a mortgage rate fall and it would be unwilling to be seen as provoking a move in the opposite direction.

There are small signs also that the banks are warming slightly towards the mortgage market again. Midland has recently decided on a 50 per cent increase of its rather small monthly allocation to mortgage lending from £10m to £15m, though it emphasizes that this is to satisfy the needs of present customers. "We are not heading back into the market."

The other big banks are not planning any increases.

The Trustee Savings Banks, however, are keen to return to mortgage lending which they had to stop after running out of their government sanctioned allocation. They are negotiating for "a substantial increase" on the £90m lent to housebuyers over the last four years. An announcement is expected next month.

Susan Bevan

BUILDING SOCIETY RATES

	Interest rate %	Notice	Min. investment
Abbey National	8.25	7 days	£500
Alliance	8.5	2 mths	£500
Anglia	8.5	1 mth	£500
Colchester	7.25	-	£500
Chelt & Glouc	8.25	-	£1,000
Guardian	8.25	6 mths	£1,000
Halifax	8.25	28 days	£500
Hendon	8.75	3 mths	£500
Herna Bay	8.75	3 mths	£500
Holmesdale	9.00	8 mths	£1,000
Leeds Perm	8.25	28 days	£500
Mornington	8.5	-	£500
Nat Counties Portman	9.1	28 days	£500
Nationwide	8.25	28 days	£500
Portsmouth	9.00	8 mths	£1,000
Wessex	8.5	-	£500
Woolwich	8.25	28 days	£500

*Not of basic rate tax

Why wait for extra interest?

You could walk into many building societies right now, invest a lump sum in a typical term share account, and earn a high rate of extra interest. But you'll need to leave your money untouched for as long as two or three years.

If, for some reason, you need some of your money back again, you'll find that most societies will make you wait a full three months. And what's more, they'll also deduct three months of your hard-earned interest.

With the Cheltenham & Gloucester however, there's no waiting. We're still the only major building society to offer a full 1% extra interest with no strings at all.

CHELTEHAM GOLD
8.25% 11.79%
NO TERM. NO NOTICE. NO PENALTIES

Invest £1000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Account and we'll give you 1% extra interest paid annually plus 100% freedom to withdraw money immediately without any advance notice or loss of interest. Fall below £1000 and you still earn 7.25% net* 10.36% gross.

CHELTEHAM GOLD MONTHLY INTEREST

Invest £5000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account and we'll pay you extra interest monthly, direct to your bank. Better still, add the interest to your account each month and you'll earn the annual equivalent of **8.57% net* 12.24% gross***

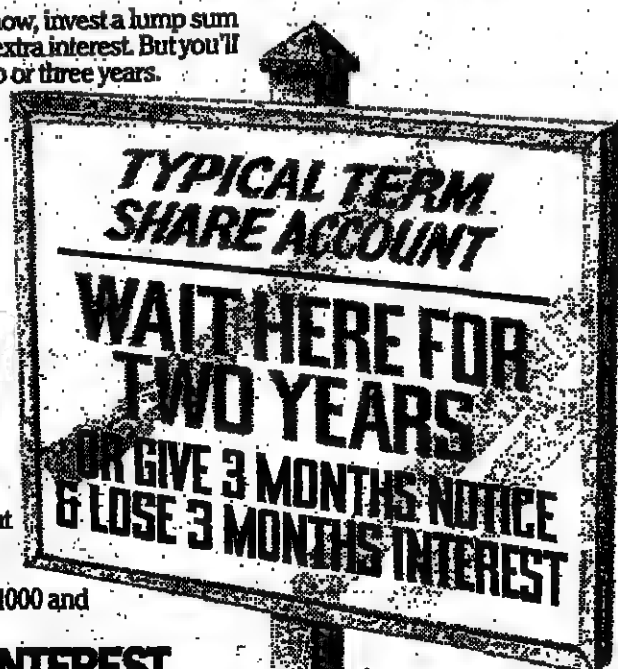
At your branch. Or by post - Free.

You'll find your local branch in Yellow Pages. If there's no branch handy, use the coupon to open either of the Cheltenham Gold Accounts by Post. You can pay in or withdraw as you like. We pay the first class postage. Whichever way you choose, it's your first step to total freedom.

To: C & G Building Society PO Box 24, FREEPOST, Cheltenham, Glos, GL53 7PW.
I/we enclose £ to open a Gold By Post Account (Minimum £1,000).
Maximum £50,000. Joint Account £60,000.
I/we enclose £ to open a Gold Monthly Interest Account By Post.
(Minimum £5,000. Maximum £50,000. Joint Account £60,000). Please send more details.
Full name (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____ (Block Capital)
Address _____
Postcode _____ Q12

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 3JR. Tel: 0242 36611.
Member of the Building Societies Association. Over 450 Branches and Agents Assets exceed £2482 million.
*Current rates. The rate of interest paid on the Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account may vary from that paid on the Cheltenham Gold Account. *Gross equivalent for basic rate tax payers.



AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP BRITISH BUSINESS GROW
THE BUCKMASTER DEVELOPMENT FUND

(established under the Business Expansion Scheme)

The Government in order to help British business grow has set up the Business Expansion Scheme, which makes tax relief available to private individuals on investments in unquoted companies. Since the investment can be deducted for income tax purposes from the individual's total income, the potential tax benefits, particularly to high rate tax payers, could be substantial.

However, tax reliefs are not in themselves enough and the successful investor will be the one who identifies companies with growth potential where at some future moment his investment can be realised.

Furthermore, since investing in unquoted companies involves high risk as well as the possibility of large rewards, some individuals may be well advised to consider spreading their risks by participating in a fund through which a number of investments will be made on their behalf.

Buckmaster & Moore has therefore set up The Buckmaster Development Fund to invest in a range of unquoted companies which can demonstrate that with the benefit of additional capital they are capable of profitable expansion.

The fund aims to attract a total of £2,500,000 from private investors in amounts ranging from £2,500 to £40,000.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE FUND.

SUBSCRIPTIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ON THE BASIS OF THE MEMORANDUM DESCRIBING THE FUND. BEFORE ANY INVESTOR SUBSCRIBES TO THE FUND HE SHOULD ENSURE THAT APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL ADVICE IS TAKEN. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE MINIMUM INVESTMENT IS £2,500.

For further details, please complete this coupon and send it to The Buckmaster Development Fund, Buckmaster & Moore, The Stock Exchange, London EC2P 2JT

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- The monthly Investment Action Report, an independent assessment of what is happening in the world of investment — with details of how you can capitalise on investment opportunities as they arise.
 - Three exclusive portfolios for different kinds of investor:
 - * Speculate to Accumulate
 - * Rising Monthly Income
 - * 5-Star Investment Management
 - Exclusive discounts on top-performing unit trusts.
- The most important effect of the name change is that we shall now have the opportunity to work even more closely with our sister companies in the Reed Stenhouse Group to provide a comprehensive service for all our clients. This can only lead to greater benefits and more innovation.



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USM REVIEW

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

EVERY MONDAY

FAMILY MONEY

National Savings

Treasury's bonds of little interest

What would be the worst kind of fixed interest investment you could think of? One which locks you in for a minimum of a year, has substantial withdrawal penalties, pays no interest for 12 months and the return on which is taxable and not guaranteed? That, in a nutshell, is the latest offering from National Savings which this week announced the launch of a new Deposit Bond, for sale over Post Office counters from October 17.

It is a one-year deposit bond where the interest is not paid out, but rolled up and added to the capital value of the bond on the first anniversary. Interest is taxable and will vary at six weeks' notice and has been set initially at 11.5 per cent. Minimum investment is £500.

The minds of Treasury officials and those who decide on marketing strategy for National Savings are difficult to

fathom, but it is far from obvious to whom this new bond is supposed to appeal.

Parents might be persuaded to invest in the bond with money they are tucking away for young children, but it will not appeal much to the children themselves since the money is locked up for a minimum of 12 months. Cash withdrawn within the first year earns only half the quoted rate of interest and it is necessary to give three months' notice on all withdrawals.

National Savings says it aims to get small clubs, associations and similar organisations into the bond, but how many can afford to have money immobilised for a year? Whoever designed the product would have done better to have offered a lower — but tax-free — return, which would have produced a product very similar to the offshore roll-up funds.

National Savings would then

have been well placed to pick up a large slice of these funds when money comes home at the end of the year.

Alternatively, if National Savings were to do the sensible thing and simply pay interest monthly on National Savings Bank investment accounts they would have a product of enormous appeal which would remove the need for either the new deposit bond or the highly complex income bond.

The building societies learned the hard way that the last thing investors want is an inflexible investment that does not allow withdrawals. Their two-year term shares will almost certainly take second place to the 28-day accounts now the subject of fierce competition as Abbey National bids up the price of money.

Investors can only be persuaded to lock-up their money for several years if there is a

guaranteed, rather than variable, return — hence the popularity of savings certificates and income bonds which guarantee a fixed return.

The other curious aspect of National Savings strategy is that there appears to be no urgent need to round-up new money. National Savings' target for 1983-84 is the same as last year. During the first five months of the 1982-83 fiscal year some £794m was taken in, and this year National Savings' net receipts for the five months ending August 1983 are well above target at £970m.

The building societies are certainly not concerned at the potential competition from the new National Savings bond. A spokesman for the Building Societies Association said: "I don't think it is a major product". But is it worth investing? At 11.5 per cent gross, the equivalent return to a basic rate taxpayer is 8.05 per cent. A return of 8.25 per cent basic rate tax paid is available from almost any building society on a 28 days notice account, so why lock yourself into National Savings Deposit Bonds for over a year?

The elderly, who might just be non-taxpayers, will find this unattractive because there is no income.

Lorna Bourke

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account — no interest paid.
Deposit accounts — Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Lloyds extra interest 8½ per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9½ per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 — 1, 3 and 6 months 8½ per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS
Fund Name Flat APR Telephone
Allison Home 9.00 9.28 01 638 6078
B of Scotland 9.05 9.43 01 628 8080
Birmingham 9.25 9.62 01 638 2777
Midland 9.05 9.43 01 498 6834
Coppenshaw Street

High Interest
Deposit account 9.51 9.78
S & P 9.01 9.43 0708 86566
Schroder Wagon 9.30 9.51 01 588 4008
Telford & Pley 9.21 9.58 01 238 0822
T & R 7 day 9.57 9.89 01 238 0822
Telford 7 day 9.27 9.57 0272 722241
Telford 7 day 9.27 9.57 0272 722241
Telford 7 day 9.27 9.57 01 623 3020
Western Trust 1 month 9.13 9.52 0732 281181

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — interest 3 per cent, first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account — 11 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 26th Issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8.25 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Min investment £2,000 — max. £200,000. Interest — 11½ per cent

variable at six weeks' notice — paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice — check penalties.

National Savings 2nd Index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1983 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in September 1978, £173.87 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity. 2-3 years Premium Life 8.6 per cent min investment £500, 4 years General portfolio 9-1 to 11.5 per cent min investment £1,000, 5 years Premium Life 9.1 per cent min investment £500.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 9½ per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers); 1 year Kingston upon Hull 8 per cent, 2 years Tandridge 10½ per cent, 3 years Hammersmith & Fulham 11 per cent, 4 years Hammersmith &

Fulham 11½ per cent, 5-6 years Knowsley 11½ per cent, 7-8 years Telford 11½ per cent, 10 years Tameside 11½ per cent.

Building societies
Ordinary share accounts — 7.25 per cent. Term shares — 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes — 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Investors in Industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 10½ per cent; 4-5 years, 11 per cent; 5-10 years, 11½ per cent; Further information from 31, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 01-928 7822.

Finance house deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deduction of tax. Five-fifty scheme: 6 months 9½ per cent; 1 year, 10 per cent; 2 years, 10½ per cent.

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int. Reserves 0481 26741. seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

US dollar
Yes 8.8 per cent
D Mart 8.78 per cent
French Franc 1.54 per cent
Swiss Franc 11.47 per cent
August RPI: 338.0 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

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Posedon, Polly Peck, London & Liverpool...
fortunes have been made and lost in penny shares. Timing and supervision is vital.

LAWSON PENNY SHARE FUND
will invest in a spread of shares, currently quoted in pence (or the equivalent overseas), aiming to select a few future star performers. The objective is capital growth. This new unit trust is speculative; we suggest you commit only a small part of your assets to this fund. The minimum holding is only £400.

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Until Friday 7th October 1983.

Estimated gross annual yield 13.4%
The Managers reserve the right to close this offer if the current price has risen by more than 25% from the fixed price and Units will be allocated thereafter at the current price. During an offer Units may be bought and sold daily otherwise on Wednesday. A wider range of trustee securities authorised by the Department of Trade. The price and the income can go down as well as up. An initial charge of 5% is included in the price. A monthly fee of 0.167% + VAT is deducted from income and/or capital. Trustee and Registrar: Clydesdale Bank PLC (Member of the Midland Bank Group). Auditors: Ernst & Whinney C.A.

LAWSON FUND MANAGERS LTD., 43 CHARLOTTE SQUARE, EDINBURGH EH2 4HL. TEL: 031-225 6001.
For Lawson Fund Managers Ltd., 43 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4HL. Tel: 031-225 6001.

APPLICATION FORM
I enclose a cheque payable to Lawson Fund Managers Ltd.
to be invested in Lawson Penny Share Fund
Signature (Mr/Ms/Mrs/Ms)
Surname
Forenames (in full please)
Address
PS4 T/1/8

MIN. HOLDING £400
Accumulation Units Only
(Income Re-Invested)

Nationwide Building Society

Placing of £12,500,000 10½ per cent Bonds due 8th October 1984

Listing for the bonds has been granted by the Council of The Stock Exchange. Particulars in relation to The Nationwide Building Society are available in the Extel Statistical Services. Copies of the placing Memorandum may be obtained from:-

Fulton Packshaw Ltd.,
34-40 Ludgate Hill,
London EC4M 7JT

Laurie, Milbank & Co.,
Portland House,
72/73 Basinghall Street,
London EC2V 5DP

Rowe & Pitman,
City-Gate House,
39-45 Finsbury Square,
London EC2A 1JA



THE UPTURN STARTS HERE

3 Save & Prosper funds well-placed to benefit from world economic recovery

COMMODITY SHARE FUND

After years of recession, prospects for commodity producers are much improved. Only the fittest have survived by streamlining their operations and increasing their potential.

As world recovery gathers momentum they should be among the first to benefit as demand for commodities looks set to outstrip supply in the short term, leading to markedly higher prices. For the private investor we believe Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund offers an excellent way to share in the outstanding prospects for companies engaged in commodity production and marketing.

Worldwide investment spread
As Britain's largest unit trust specialising in commodity shares the Fund offers a truly diversified spread of investment. The current distribution of the Fund by commodity and geographical area is shown opposite.

Fine record
Over the 5 years to 27th September 1983 the offer price of units has risen by 115.5%. This compares with a rise of 93.6% in the FTA All-Share Index over the same period.

Commodity breakdown

Gold	18.9%
Mining Finance	13.8%
Copper	12.1%
Oil and gas	11.6%
Rubber and palm oil	8.7%
Aluminium	5.4%
Iron ore and steel	5.1%
Miscellaneous metals	9.2%
Others	15.2%

Geographical breakdown

North America	44.2%
South Africa	23.6%
UK	16.9%
Far East	8.0%
Others	7.3%

ENERGY INDUSTRIES FUND

Demand for energy looks set to increase with world recovery. Shares of companies with a good record of exploration and exploitation are likely to move ahead much faster than energy shares in general.

The key to successful investment now lies in identifying those companies which are efficiently increasing their reserves in the ground, as prices will depend more on future earning potential than on prevailing energy prices. Launched in 1973, Save & Prosper Energy Industries Fund offers an attractive way of sharing in the success of many such companies. It has performed exceptionally well, with the offer price of units increasing by 221.5% over the 10 years to 27th September 1983. This compares with a 149.4% rise in the FTA All-Share Index over the same period.

Current strategy
A significant part of the Fund is invested in US

companies which have large gas reserves. Although there is a glut at present, the Fund Managers believe that the price is bound to rise and that earnings will move ahead sharply. Overall the Fund has a higher proportion of money invested in the USA than similar unit trusts. Recent reports that US economic activity is higher than expected have heightened the Fund's prospects and we believe that now is a very good time to invest.

Sector breakdown

US Oils	25.4%
UK Oils	16.5%
Other Oils	19.4%
Oil services	17.5%
Drilling contractors	10.7%
Miscellaneous	10.5%

EXPLORATION FUND

Increasing economic activity worldwide and the prospect of rising prices for natural resources once again focus attention on the key role of exploration.

Greater demand for oil and minerals means that new sources of supply must be found. Higher prices will inevitably lead to more exploration activity, which should increase the likelihood of new and successful discoveries. For the private investor few sectors offer such rapid growth potential as a discovery can multiply share prices within days. The problem is to identify and invest in these companies before such discoveries are made.

Save & Prosper Exploration Fund offers you a unique opportunity to share in the fortunes of exploration companies on a worldwide basis and with the benefit of full-time professional management. We believe that the Fund is ideally structured for

present market conditions and that the Fund should benefit from further discoveries in the months ahead.

A risk investment with safeguards
The potential for high reward in this sector is greater than in other sectors but the risk is higher too. By investing in this Fund you can participate in an exploration investment, while still enjoying the benefit of the safeguards provided by a unit trust. An investment in the Fund should form only part of your portfolio.

Sector breakdown

Oil and gas	36.6%
Gold	21.0%
Metals	19.7%
Mining	19.1%
Others	3.6%

SPECIAL OFFER

1% FREE ALLOCATION OF UNITS

When you invest £1,000 or more in any one of these funds before 14th October 1983

To: Save & Prosper Securities Ltd, Administration Centre, Hexagon House, 28 Western Road, Romford RM1 3LB. Tel: 0708-669666.

All units will be allocated at the quoted unit offer price ruling on receipt of your application. The minimum investment per fund is £250, or £1,000 to qualify for the 1% free allocation of units.

I wish to invest £..... in Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund
I wish to invest £..... in Save & Prosper Energy Industries Fund
I wish to invest £..... in Save & Prosper Exploration Fund

I understand that the free allocation offer applies only to applications of £1,000 or more in any one of these funds received by 14th October 1983. I enclose a cheque made payable to Save & Prosper Securities Ltd, I am over 18. I would like the distributions of income to be reinvested in further units.

*Delete if not applicable.

First Name(s)..... (BLOCK CAPITALS)
Surname.....
Address.....
Postcode.....
Existing account number (if any).....
Signature..... Date.....
This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland. Reg. in Scotland No. 19438. Reg. office: 68/73 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NL.

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C.D./NO.

SAVE & PROSPER

FAMILY MONEY

Covering the country

Have you ever wished you could pop into an insurance broker to compare car insurance premiums?

There are hundreds of small, "first floor" broker's offices about, but no-one has offered a nationwide network of branches which can easily be identified - and trusted - like well-known stores and supermarkets. The financial services and poster advertising group Mills & Allen International (MAI) now hopes to do just that.

Earlier this year, MAI bought Andrew & Booth, and expanded chain of 50 insurance broking outlets. Since then, it has bought another 40 shops giving it a sizable presence in Scotland, the Midlands, London and the South-East. It intends to add another 150 in the next year.

The Automobile Association is the largest seller of vehicle insurance on the country, followed by Swinton, the

Midlands chain, with Andrew & Booth in third place.

But if the plan of Mr Pat Carter, the MAI's insurance broking director, succeeds, MAI could be rivaling the AA before long. He is working on a new name and image for the branches.

The idea is to sell mainly car insurance, as well as some life insurance and house contents cover.

Mr Carter is looking for premises to train branch staff. He is well aware of criticism that although the Insurance Brokers' Registration Council requires the majority of parent company directors to be registered brokers there can be dangers in having unregistered staff in the field.

"Obviously we are responsible for business transacted by our branches, but we are going to encourage staff actively to get training and become registered individually," Mr Carter added.

Business Expansion Scheme

Top-rate taxpayers can 'buy a job'

A new register of potential investors in firms seeking finance under the Business Expansion Scheme has a secondary "buy yourself a job" appeal for redundant executives. Family Money has been finding out how it works.

Electra Risk Capital, part of the Electra Investment Trust group, has announced a Business Expansion Scheme register which aims to offer private investors the opportunity of choosing their own unquoted trading investment.

Electra Risk already runs a BES fund, adapted from its Business Start-Up Scheme fund, established in 1981. That fund spreads the risk of investment under BES over a number of investments. It particularly appeals to small investors who cannot put up the maximum £200,000 five-year investment and thus can not afford to risk losing their money on just one investment.

The new fund is aimed at those high-rate taxpayers who might wish to choose their own investment and possibly become involved with the company in which they invest.

According to Mr Gordon Dean, Managing Director of Electra Risk, members of the register will complete a questionnaire detailing their preferences and the amount they wish to invest each year. Then a list of prospectuses relating to proposed issues of shares in unquoted companies will be sent to them or their financial advisers.

Mr Dean claims that the BES has generated a new stimulus to investments and as a result Electra expects far more companies to seek new capital from private investors.

Electra has £20m in two approved funds under BES. The first, the revamped Start-Up Scheme, has £8.5m invested in 32 companies. The second Risk Fund, established in April and pure BES, has £12m invested in eight companies and has another £4m committed.

high-rate taxpayers who want to exercise individual choice and may wish to involve themselves or their expertise.

This is a particularly important, but little realised point. Many prospectuses will arrive from people with little management or financial expertise. They often do not realise that further tranches of cash are required over a five-year period during trading growth and are sometimes not experienced enough to cope with a sudden, sharp rise in demand.

Mr Dean conceded the point. Electra, he said, has often to inject managerial expertise to protect the interests of its investors, and this can sometimes hold back a planned investment while suitable candidates are recruited.

This could prove attractive to those executives made redundant who have a cash sum or may wish to draw resources from their pension funds. In other words, buy yourself a job.

Mr Dean also pointed out that the concentration on BES should not exclude those pursuing a pure Start-Up.

There are many millions of pounds available in varying schemes within the City, but not many major funds have found it as easy as they had originally thought to attract companies seeking investment.

Indeed, there appears a large gulf between the City and small entrepreneurs.

Such a view does not capture the spirit of the Government's intention in establishing BES. Electra, he added, felt that there was a useful equilibrium between those seeking funds and those wishing to invest.

Wayne Lintott

Dean: new stimulus

Move to ban cowboy insurers

Imperial Life of Canada has jumped the gun and brought out a licensing system for its insurance salesmen in advance of industry-wide moves to outlaw the cowboy salesman.

The life insurance industry is anxious to put its own house in order to stem demands for statutory regulation.

"I don't hate to see legislation. It is such a big industry. Surely we ought to be able to regulate ourselves," said Mr Roger Wain, Imperial Life's senior vice-president and general manager.

He was speaking this week at the launch of Imperial Life's licensing system for its 400 salesmen.

Each will carry a plastic credit-card type card showing that he is either a provisional, full or advanced life underwriter. On joining the company, the salesman will be given a provisional licence after the normal investigation into his background and credit worthiness, and signing the code of conduct. After about 15 months' experience and further training he can become a fully licensed salesman.

Mr Wain envisages the setting up of an independent body, rather like the IBA, which would have strong consumer representation to police the licensing system.

Imperial Life says that the licensing of its existing 400 sales persons - who are full employees - has been painless. There are now 120 provisional licence holders, 140 with full licences and 140 with advanced licences.

"We are pleased that Imperial's licensing scheme is based on the Life Offices Association's Code of Conduct," commented Mr Stuart Rutherford of the LOA. "But we believe that any system of licensing must cover the industry as a whole."

But even these assurances may be not absolutely cast-iron. Mr Craig says: "If a customer suddenly develops a really dreadful driving record, we will increase the basic premium - but it has to be a really bad case."

Margaret Drummond

Table-topping promotion

Top performing Prolific Technology Trust is being offered at a 1 per cent discount until October 14 as part of its campaign to publicise an excellent track record.

Prolific Technology has topped the league table of growth trusts over the past 12 months turning in a 113 per cent increase in value.

Other unit trusts in the Prolific stable have shown credible performances too

with the Far Eastern fund up 82 per cent, the North American Fund up 81 per cent, Special Situations up 69 per cent and the International Fund up 62 per cent.

Up to now Prolific has kept a low profile, preferring to establish a good track record as the main plank of its sales pitch.

With that now established, the company has decided to put its head above the parapet and advertise its trusts.

Now, you can become a worldwide investor - TAX FREE!

If your money is sitting in a building society, it has earned you 5.5% so far in 1983. Perhaps you're satisfied with that; if you are, don't bother to read on.

Since the beginning of this year, the stock market in London has produced growth of 18.2% - 3.3 times what you would have had from a building society. In America, the growth has been 17%. In Japan, it's been 15%. In Canada, 30%. And in Australia, 50%. All in less than ten months. But how can you get in on these profits without paying tax?

The answer is simple. A new TAX-FREE investment plan has just come on to the market with a first-class pedigree. If you're eligible to invest, you should do so as a matter of urgent priority.

To find out, complete and return the coupon NOW. And we'll send you details of how you can become a worldwide investor, TAX FREE, without leaving the comfort of your own home.

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Registered in Edinburgh No. 47984.
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Present Income £ _____ Date of Birth _____ Tax Rate _____ %
Lump sum amount available for investment £ _____
Amount available for regular savings £ _____ per year/month

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REED STENHOUSE GIBBS

SHOULDN'T SOME OF YOUR INVESTMENTS BE IN A SAFE PORTFOLIO?

Safe Portfolio A fixed-interest package

Westminster Assurance has put together a clutch of fixed-interest products for its Safe Portfolio package. A combination of a building society investment, index-linked bond and a guaranteed income bond.

The first element in the package is a two-year maximum term bond which guarantees a 2.1 per cent premium over the building society ordinary rate of 1.25 per cent. This means a return of 1.25 per cent plus a marginally better than the two-year term shares which the building societies themselves are offering.

The building societies are paying a 1.75 per cent premium although some of the smaller societies are offering as much as 2.0 per cent over the BSAs recommended rate of 1.25 per cent.

Both Westminster's bond and the building society share rates will fluctuate in line with any changes in building society rates, though the premium over the recommended rate is guaranteed in both cases.

The second element is an index-linked bond which guarantees a bonus of 1.5 per cent a year over the rate of inflation.

Whether this is a better deal than the National Savings index-linked bonds is difficult to judge because, although the bonus on National Savings index-linked bonds is at the moment higher at 0.3 per cent a month of 2.4 per cent a year, you get no index-linking or bonus if you cash in within 12 months.

Also, the Westminster premium of 1.5 per cent over the rate of inflation is fixed for two years whereas National Savings has yet to fix its bonus for 1984-85 and it might be lower than the present 2.4 per cent.

The third arm of the Westminster Safe Portfolio is a straightforward four-year guaranteed income bond paying 8.5 per cent (fixed for the term) plus a basic rate tax.

Minimum investment in all three products is £2,500 in each case.

Lorna Bourke

THE TIMES September 17th, 1983

Westminster Assurance

Please send me full details of your highly attractive SAFE PORTFOLIO

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

POST TO: FREEPOST, Blatchley, Milton Keynes MK9 2BT. Tel: (0908) 606101

Westminster Assurance is the trading name of City of Westminster Assurance Company Limited. A member of the Century Group of Insurance Companies with worldwide assets exceeding £1,000,000,000.

Steering clear of the claims risk

One of the most frustrating things that can happen to a prudent motorist is to lose our no-claims bonus. If you have a bump after a decade of careful voyaging, you usually find that your valuable no-claims bonus is cut at a stroke from 60 to 40 per cent.

This can happen even if you are not to blame - one reader found his no-claims bonus cut when he claimed for some luggage that was stolen from his car. With motor insurance premiums increasing annually - the average rise this year appears to be about 10 per cent - it is no wonder that policyholders weigh up the cost carefully before they make a claim.

Insurance companies are cottoning on to this fact - over the last two years or so many more are offering a protection for the no-claims bonus for a little extra premium. When our motor insurance renewal flattered onto the doormat this week the broker had added £6 to the cost of our General Accident policy to ensure the discount.

With General Accident you can make two claims in five years and suffer no penalty on your no-claims bonus if you buy the additional protection.

Big motor insurers offer different deals. Commercial Union, for instance, offers automatic no-claims bonus protection to people over 50 and to anyone else who buys its home contents insurance as well as motor insurance.

But most important insurers will offer an extra policy protecting the no-claims bonus, subject to you not making more

than a stipulated number of claims - a couple of companies will guarantee a life-long, no-claims bonus if you pay an extra premium.

Mr Anthony Craig, marketing manager of the Stratford-based NFU Mutual & Avon says: "We did a lot of research on the no-claims bonus system and discovered that a lot of motorists were prepared to pay a bit extra to have a lifelong

guarantee." His company offers the protection-for-life option for an extra 10 per cent premium.

But even these assurances may be not absolutely cast-iron. Mr Craig says: "If a customer suddenly develops a really dreadful driving record, we will increase the basic premium - but it has to be a really bad case."

Margaret Drummond

How to turn £500 into £2,150 on the Stock Market in just six weeks



FREE PRIZE DRAW WIN £1,000

Every Thursday morning a small number of extremely well informed investors quickly snap up whatever is available of certain shares.

They act with speed and total confidence. Within days (sometimes even hours) they have reaped huge profits.

For example, on 22nd December 1982 against the advice of many experienced brokers, these investors bought Samsen Exploration at 12p.

On 2nd February 1983 they sold their shares for 62p each.

If you had invested £500 at the same time you would have made £2,150 in just 62 days. This is by no means the best example of their investment successes.

The secret of investment success is the only way to make a killing on the Stock Market is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the world gets round and prices react.

Every Wednesday evening Stock Market Confidential is passed from class to all our subscribers. In it we make comprehensive buying and selling recommendations, offer sound investment analysis and, most important of all, suggest three "hot tips" for the week.

If you haven't acted on our "hot tips" by Thursday lunchtime you've missed the best - other SMC subscribers will have already pushed prices up.

What to buy and when to sell

If you look at the SMC Growth Record for 82/83 shown you'll notice that we aren't shy to include all our losses. This is because when few there have been hardly any of our staggering overall success rate of 80%.

One reason for this success has been that we not only tell you what to buy - but also when to sell.

In fact the average holding period is only thirteen weeks which means you can maximise profits and minimise losses.

Our subscribers can boast some of the headline profits anywhere with fast in and out profits, and quick capital gains.

What you probably didn't know is that each week he chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers. At the end of the meeting they have chosen three of the hottest tips around.

We guarantee that none of these tips will be leaked by the Editorial Board, or published, except in SMC.

Which means you can act with total confidence each Thursday morning.

SMC Growth Record 82/83

The Performing Share Security Tag System: +640%
Average Growth Per 'Hot Tip' (including losses): +32.47%
Average holding period: 13.4 weeks

SMC Weekly Contents:

- Three 'Hot Tips' - act by Thursday lunchtime before other subscribers push up the prices.
- USM advice - aimed at fast in and out profits.
- Comprehensive investment analysis including gold, building societies and gilts.
- Valuable inside information for long term capital growth.

SMC is a four-page weekly news sheet available by private subscription.

FREE! £1,000 PRIZE DRAW

Everyone is welcome to enter our Free Prize Draw. All you have to do is tick the appropriate box on the application form below and return it to us by October 31st 1983.

On Wednesday November 8th 1983, if you're the winner, you'll receive £500 to spend or invest as you please.

We'll suggest you invest it evenly across our "Hot Tips" for that week. Because if you do, and

your £500 of shares worth £1,000 by December 9th, we'll make up the difference in cash. That's right, we're so confident that our advice is sound we believe that £500 will be worth £1,000 in just four weeks!

Everyone is welcome to enter the FREE Prize Draw. No purchase is necessary.

FREE BOOK FOR FIRST-TIME SUBSCRIBERS

SMC was originally published to help only experienced investors. But it's of equal value to first-timers. If you have never invested in the Stock Market before we'll send you a free book: "How the Stock Exchange Works" to help you squeeze the maximum profit from SMC.

HOT TIP HOTLINE

In case you're away from home on a Thursday morning, or the first tip is delayed, we supply you with a private Hot Tip Hotline phone number, so that you can hear a summary of that week's SMC.

FREE! SIX TRIAL ISSUES

Return the completed order below and we'll rush you the next six issues of SMC absolutely free.

So you can profit from our expert invaluable advice for six whole weeks at no cost to yourself. If you're not convinced that the vital information which SMC contains is worth £144 a year just write to your bank and cancel your banker's order before the due date.

SAVE £72! YEAR ONE AT HALF-PRICE

In addition to six free issues you can also receive your first year's subscription to SMC at half price if you order before October 11th. So it'll cost you just £72.00 for your year.

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57/61 Mortimer Street, London WIN 7TD

Send by October 11th

Please send to: STOCKMARKET CONFIDENTIAL, 57/61 Mortimer Street, London WIN 7TD.

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Please enter me in the £1,000 Free Prize Draw

Please send me FREE book "How the Stock Exchange Works"

I am replying before October 11th to receive your year one at half price

Banker's Order

Please pay to the order of Stock Market Confidential, A/C No. 90084356 at Midland Bank Ltd, High Street, 40 & 41, the sum of £72.00, two months from the date shown and thereafter the sum of £144.00 each year on the anniversary of the date shown being my membership to Stock Market Confidential and debit my account accordingly unless instructed by me in writing. TSW



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Perpetual, over the last decade, has become one of Britain's most successful unit trust groups. All three Perpetual Growth Funds have proved, without exception, to be excellent investments.

The Growth Fund, with an increase of 137% in the offer price of units since its launch in 1971, is the only unit trust group in the F.T. Ordinary Index to have achieved this. It is Britain's first authorised Unit Trust to have achieved this.

Perpetual has approached £70,000,000 of funds under management worldwide.

Initial Launch Offer

Units in the Perpetual Group American Growth Fund are offered in sale at a fixed price of 50p until 14 October 1983. The estimated initial yield is 0.7% gross per annum. Units can be purchased by completing the coupon and sending it to us together with your cheque before 14 October.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Perpetual Group American Growth Fund is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England. It is authorised by the Financial Services Commission to accept deposits and to carry on the business of a bank.

Perpetual

Britain's Fast Growing Unit Trust Managers

Candecca hits 160p

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Monday, Dealings end, Oct 14, Contango Day, Oct 17, Settlement Day, Oct 24.

Candecca Resources, the oil exploration group, hit 160p yesterday on news that Mr Paul Bristol's KCA International had bought a near 30 per cent stake.

At this level, Candecca, which is quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, is valued at £45.5m. KCA bought its stake from Sceptre Resources, the Canadian exploration group, which previously held a 36.6 per cent stake. KCA paid 160p a share for the stake amounting to £18.77m, but now must ask shareholders for the final go-ahead.

Mr Bristol had made known his plans to expand the group's exploration interests after the sale of KCA Drilling. But asked if he would be making a full bid for Candecca, Mr Bristol replied: "I look on this as an investment."

Meanwhile, Rosshold, the consortium bidding for KCA Drilling, said it had received acceptance totalling 3.8 million in both the ordinary and deferred shares. This amounts to 4.8 per cent of the total. Together with the 60 million shares bought from KCA

International, Rosshold owns 79.8 per cent of the equity. The rest of the equity market kept up a brave face to the end of the account with the FT Index closing at its high for the day 2.9 up at 702.6 - a rise of

Laporte Industries (Holdings) enjoyed a bout of renewed support yesterday, closing 15p up at 296p, after 30p, Thursday night's meeting with City analysts at the Society of Investment Analysts appears to have been rewarding, with the group looking for a record run this year and an even better performance next. Last year the group made £19.8m.

8.4 over the two weeks. But business was described as abysmally low with dealers puzzled by the lack of interest shown by investors. Some blamed the lack of activity on the jobs. Akroyd & Smithers, the bigger of the two quoted

jobs, ended its financial year yesterday. Akroyd ended the day 2p dearer at 353p with the market expecting another set of bumper profits. Last year it made £23m. Mercantile House's decision to buy a stake in one of the leading Stock Exchange firms has also provided a great deal of speculative interest for the shares.

Gilts continued to mark time awaiting the expected cut in domestic interest rates. But once again the Bank of England appeared reluctant to start the ball rolling. On the foreign exchange markets the pound closed below \$1.50, losing 0.3 cents at \$1.4970.

Among blue chips, ICI put up a remarkable performance and was mainly responsible for the market's firm appearance, adding 16p to 558p. This week the group applied for a listing of its American depositary receipts on Wall Street which appears to

have sparked off renewed support for the shares by US investors. Glaxo, another US favourite, enjoyed a jump of 25p to 825p, but BP slipped 4p to 436p after

FKI Electronics, the parking meter manufacturer, which joined the USM last year after a reverse takeover of Woodend Securities, has been granted a full listing for its shares by the Stock Exchange. Broker Panmure Gordon will be placing an extra 10 per cent of the equity amounting to 15.9 million shares, and the market is looking for pretax profits of more than £2m. The shares closed unchanged at 224p.

Monday's excitement surrounding the launch of the new shares after the Government's sell-off. Britannia Arrow held steady at 92p after selling off EP Publishing, a subsidiary of the Seymour Press, to A & C Black.

The purchase price is unlikely to exceed £1.15m and will include £100,000 of goodwill. A & C Black will issue 200,000 new shares to help pay for the acquisition.

Shares of Dixor-Strand, the cosmetics group, were suspended at 33p yesterday pending details of the group's proposed reorganization. It appears the group is in talks with Henna (Hair Health), a private company controlled by Mr S Lerner, managing director of Dixor and its biggest shareholder with 6.6 million shares, with the view of making a reverse takeover of Dixor.

The offer for sale by tender of 18.4 million shares in Atlantic Computer has been 1.9 times oversubscribed. N. M. Rothschild, the merchant bank, has pitched the striking price at 230p. Applications from members of staff amounted to 246,000 shares.

But Rothschild appears to have met with only muted response to its offer for sale by tender of 3.7 million shares in Coin Industries, the electronic coin machine group.

RECENT ISSUES	Closing Price
A-M Hires 10p Ord (115)	120
Argenta Group 25p Ord (115)	120
BP 25p Ord (435)	436
Central Independent TV 50p N.V. Ord (1)	168
Clear 10p Ord (7)	162
DPCE Holdings 5p Ord (7)	162
Electric 10p Ord (14)	162
Franklin's 5p Ord (160)	64
Managers 10p Ord (160)	64
Mental Science 5p Ord (11)	162
PCF Group 10p Ord (130)	130
Post Office 25p Ord (210)	210
Raymond Securities 5p Ord (205)	210
Scott's 5p Ord (148)	148
SCILAS 5p Ord (148)	148
Southey Business 10p Ord (150)	150
Technique Business 25p Ord (100)	100
Thermal Systems 25p Ord (100)	100
Time price in parentheses. * by tender.	

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
BRITISH FUNDS				

SHORTS	Each	1982/83	1982/83	1982/83	1982/83
0.1%	100	100	100	100	100
0.2%	100	100	100	100	100
0.3%	100	100	100	100	100
0.4%	100	100	100	100	100
0.5%	100	100	100	100	100
0.6%	100	100	100	100	100
0.7%	100	100	100	100	100
0.8%	100	100	100	100	100
0.9%	100	100	100	100	100
1.0%	100	100	100	100	100
1.1%	100	100	100	100	100
1.2%	100	100	100	100	100
1.3%	100	100	100	100	100
1.4%	100	100	100	100	100
1.5%	100	100	100	100	100
1.6%	100	100	100	100	100
1.7%	100	100	100	100	100
1.8%	100	100	100	100	100
1.9%	100	100	100	100	100
2.0%	100	100	100	100	100
2.1%	100	100	100	100	100
2.2%	100	100	100	100	100
2.3%	100	100	100	100	100
2.4%	100	100	100	100	100
2.5%	100	100	100	100	100
2.6%	100	100	100	100	100
2.7%	100	100	100	100	100
2.8%	100	100	100	100	100
2.9%	100	100	100	100	100
3.0%	100	100	100	100	100
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3.4%	100	100	100	100	100
3.5%	100	100	100	100	100
3.6%	100	100	100	100	100
3.7%	100	100	100	100	100
3.8%	100	100	100	100	100
3.9%	100	100	100	100	100
4.0%	100	100	100	100	100
4.1%	100	100	100	100	100
4.2%	100	100	100	100	100
4.3%	100	100	100	100	100
4.4%	100	100	100	100	100
4.5%	100	100	100	100	100
4.6%	100	100	100	100	100
4.7%	100	100	100	100	100
4.8%	100	100	100	100	100
4.9%	100	100	100	100	100
5.0%	100	100	100	100	100
5.1%	100	100	100	100	100
5.2%	100	100	100	100	100
5.3%	100	100	100	100	100
5.4%	100	100	100	100	100
5.5%	100	100	100	100	100
5.6%	100	100	100	100	100
5.7%	100	100	100	100	100
5.8%	100	100	100	100	100
5.9%	100	100	100	100	100
6.0%	100	100	100	100	100
6.1%	100	100	100	100	100
6.2%	100	100	100	100	100
6.3%	100	100	100	100	100
6.4%	100	100	100	100	100
6.5%	100	100	100	100	100
6.6%	100	100	100	100	100
6.7%	100	100	100	100	100
6.8%	100	100	100	100	100
6.9%	100	100	100	100	100
7.0%	100	100	100	100	100
7.1%	100	100	100	100	100
7.2%	100	100	100	100	100
7.3%	100	100	100	100	100
7.4%	100	100	100	100	100
7.5%	100	100	100	100	100
7.6%	100	100	100	100	100
7.7%	100	100	100	100	100
7.8%	100	100	100	100	100
7.9%	100	100	100	100	100
8.0%	100	100	100	100	100
8.1%	100	100	100	100	100
8.2%	100	100	100	100	100
8.3%	100	100	100	100	100
8.4%	100	100	100	100	100
8.5%	100	100	100	100	100
8.6%	100	100	100	100	100
8.7%	100	100	100	100	100
8.8%	100	100	100	100	100
8.9%	100	100	100	100	100
9.0%	100	100	100	100	100
9.1%	100	100	100	100	100
9.2%	100	100	100	100	100
9.3%	100	100	100	100	100
9.4%	100	100	100	100	100
9.5%	100	100	100	100	100
9.6%	100	100	100	100	100
9.7%	100	100	100	100	100
9.8%	100	100	100	100	100
9.9%	100	100	100	100	100
10.0%	100	100	100	100	100

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
LOCAL AUTHORITIES				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
DOLLAR STOCKS				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
BREWERIES AND DISTILLERS				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
A - B				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
C - D				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
E - F				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
G - H				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
I - J				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
K - L				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
M - N				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
O - P				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
Q - R				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
S - T				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
U - V				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
W - X				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
Y - Z				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AA - AB				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AC - AD				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AE - AF				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AG - AH				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AI - AJ				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AK - AL				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AM - AN				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AO - AP				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AQ - AR				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AS - AT				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div
AU - AV				

1982/83 High Low	Price	Change	Yield	Div</
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High hopes for flying Habibti

showed herself to be a remarkably talented animal in her dual Royal Ascot victories.

However formidable the overseas challenge the French are desperately hard to beat on their home ground. The Aga Khan won the Arc last year with Aktyda and the famous green and red colours will be carried now by Sharaya.

Yves St-Martin, the acknowledged master of the tricky Longchamp circuit, is attempting to record his fourth triumph.

At Newmarket this afternoon the William Hill Cambridgeshire presents its annual infuriating puzzle. My four against the field for the first leg of the autumn double are Prego, Mauritzfon-

By John Karter
While others dreamt of riding

Shoemark is the son of Bill Shoemark, the former National Hunt jockey, who now holds the reins in John Fracombe's fish and chip shop in Swindon. Balding, the jovial trainer, thinks highly indeed of this young apprentice, but as he is not a nationally known name, he is already having weight problems so this future may lie in following his father's hoof prints over the jumps.

Young Shoemark's hero is one Lord Lewins, a double winner of the 1000 Guineas who knows a thing or two about the winning game with victories on Chelchov and Alleging in the two divisions of the National Handicap Stakes. Chelchov won the first division with some authority from Zeebeed, but of the two Alleging, a winner of the dual Arc winner Alleging, is the better long term prospect.

Henry Cecil the trainer, apparently not so much a fan of the "cheeky chappie" maintained his commanding lead over the "long fellow" in the jockeys' championship when he rode a typically dynamic double on Dick Hern in the Somerville Tattersall Stakes and Jade Ring (Tattersalls Fillies Handicap).

Round Hill showed great courage to hold off Piggett's mount, Idolized, and in another who could go on to better things next year, Jade Ring, who stomped Ian Botham's filly Rely On Guy inside the final furlong, has run her last race and is



Dick Hern: in form

[illegible]

[Television (BBC1) 4.4.]

NORWICH HOUSE FORTE PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE (GROUP I: 1m 4f) (26 runners)				
11-1103	GENERAL HOLME (K Abdullah) Q Duques 4-9-4	A Murray 1		
	(Green, pink epinitules, white sleeves, pink cap)			
2-12123	CORNINGHOLM (H Bragasin) S Von Mizlitzki (Gr) 5-8-4	P Alfelt 2		
	(Light blue, white sleeves, green hood)			
-001031	PRIMA VOCE (J Durham-Matthys) R Armstrong 4-8-4	G Baxter 1		
	(Dark green, light green hoods, quartered cap)			
-213114	WELSH TERN (C Marnett) F Cram 4-8-4	C Amsussen 1		
	(Dark green, light green sleeves, dark green cap)			
-121010	OZUDU (H Johansson) A Kilmisha, Jr 6-5-4	A McChesney 2		
	(White, white sleeves, black cap)			
-040121	DIAMOND SHOAL (P Medley) J Baiding 4-8-4	S Caution 1		
	(Black, gold cross and stripe on cap)			
4-01330	DAILY JACK (E E Prentiss) A Kilmisha, Jr 5-8-4	J Goring 1		
	(Maroon, red disc, cap)			
2-01200	LANCASHIRE (Sir M Sobell) D Smaga 6-9-4	A Lequeux 2		
	(Blue, white cap)			
12-0120	ACAMIAS (L Urdang) G Bonaventura 9-9-4	J-C Dessaint 1		
	(Black and white chevrons, white sleeves, red cap)			
1030-44	WAJASBI (Sheikh Mohammed) J Durlop 4-9-1	I Piggott 1		
	(Maroon, white sleeves, star on cap)			
-001311	ZALATALIA (F Barzi) A Fabre 4-9-1	G Duboucq 2		
	(Pink, orange cap)			
-201121	TIME CHARTER (R Bennett) H Candy 4-9-1	M Newman 12		
	(Cherry, black sleeve, primrose, white quartered cap)			
-011141	STANKERRA (P Dunn) P Durrie (Irish) 5-9-1	S Rouze 4		
	(Red, black sleeves, white collar, white cap)			
102-302	ALL ALONG (D Widenstein) P-L Silencore 4-8-1	W R Swinburn 2		
	(Blue, light blue cap)			
7-11102	OLD POLARIS (D Bertinard) R Collet 3-9-1	A Sadet 1		
	(Red and dark blue diamonds, dark blue sleeves, white cap)			
-111211	SEYMOUR HICKS (P Brand) J Dunlop 3-9-1	S Raymond 1		

[illegible]

Time Charter: heads strong
British challenge

Newmarket

[illegible]

Haydock Park

Draw advantage: Low numbers best.
Tote: Double 2.35, 3.35. Treble 2.40, 3.35, 4.5.
[Television: (ITV) 1.30, 2.40 and 2.35 races]

1.30 DAILY MIRROR HANDICAP (Apprentices: 21.205: 2m 28yd) (1 runners)

91	004448	CRUSPIN (B)	J Derby J Dunlop 5-6-10	11	Dewar
92	00-0000	WINDMILL WALKS (B)	Barling J W Woods 4-9-7	12	Hewes
93	002412	ALMIRA (M)	Winston-Stray G Harwood 3-0-6	13	W Woods 5
94	040010	SNEAK PREVIEW (M)	Graeme J Canby 3-4-4	14	McIntosh 3
95	000000	PRINCE OF THE SOUTH 4-0-0	4 D Lister	15	Harwood
96	000011	AULD LANG SYNE (B)	J Cleavee Mrs H Nesbitt 4-8-5	16	J H Brown
97	003026	COLGEMAN (B)	John G Fanning 5-5-5	17	A Nesbitt
98	00-2040	MOONBLASTER (R)	W Wood 4-0-0	18	W Ryan
99	004130	BASTIA (B)	R Hestonhead 4-6-5	19	W Ryan
00	002040	WALTON (B)	J Hestonhead 4-8-5	20	W Ryan
01	000-000	BROTHER GEORGE (F)	S M C Thomson 4-8-2	21	Tootill 5
02	000-010	MEND IT (B)	Dealey J Brydott 5-7-11	22	M Richardson

Lingfield Park

Draw advantages: high numbers.

Tote: double 3.0, 4.0. Treble 2.30, 3.30, 4.30.

20 NUTTY NUT STATES (Div 1 2-y-o males)
1,444.59 17 runners

1 ALBERTA Thomas Jones 8-11
2 ARISTA A Jarvis 8-11
3 D FORWICK C Barnard 8-11
4 RILEY E B Swift 8-11
003 JUMBLER J Basking 11-1
5 LUCAS B 11-1
12 LEONA STAR S Matthews 8-11
13 MILITA MJD S Lewis 8-11
14 LADY GAY G 8-11
15 PERANO'S CACEE K Brassey 8-11
16 PEPURKE C Ament 8-11
17 DANCING C Drape 11-1
203 SCORPION'S ORQUESTO J Slocum 8-11 A
204 SEALS PROCESS S 8-11
205 SWEETING CHRISTMAS Mrs N Kennedy 8-11
206 TRY ME M Pym 11-1
207 WOODSTOCK 11-1
42222 Mrs Miroslav A Affine, S Woodstock, S Joite, M

Chenstow NH

[illegible]

Towcester

[illegible]

Kelso

[illegible]

Haydock results

[illegible]

Newmarket

Going: Good to firm

145 WESTLEY STAKES (Dw 1: 2-yr-olds midlows: 2:55.75)
1. **W. F. Fabulous Drama** (W Hiram) 9-11, Piggott (11-2) 1-2
2. **W. H. House** (2-1) 3-4
3. **W. S. Swabber** (3-1) 5-8
TOTW: Wt: 24.70, Place: 21.80, 22.50, 22.80, PD: 1st or 2nd with any other horse
Newmarket: 1st 22.50, 2nd 22.50, 3rd 22.50
Newmarket: 199, 2nd 200, 3rd 200 (10-1) 4-6
21, net 1m 22.50.5m

146 POLYGLA, FIRST OF MANY STAKES (Dw 2: 2-yr-olds: 2:11.11)
INSULIN by My Mountain (The Chum) 9-11
1. **Shoemaker** (4-1) 3-4
2. **Valentino** (1-1) 1-2
3. **Outstanding Dan** (A Shouts) 4-5
TOTW: Wt: 21.60, Place: 21.50, 23.10, PD: 23.10
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
1. 1.5m Showers (14-1) 4-6, 6m, 3rd 22.50

147 SPOREVELLE TATTERALL STAKES (3-yr-olds: 2:11.11)
1. **NOBODY HILL**, by G Auction Ring - H Hill
2. **Moos** (P B Dublin) 9-11, W Carson (2-1) 3-4
3. **Get The Message** (Pudgy) 4-5
TOTW: Wt: 24.50, Place: 21.50, 22.50, 22.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
West Rye, 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
West Rye, 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50

148 WESTLEY ST (2:44.70)
1. **ALLIED** by G Auction Ring - H Hill
2. **NOBODY HILL** (P B Dublin) 9-11
3. **Get The Message** (Pudgy) 4-5
TOTW: Wt: 21.50, Place: 21.50, 22.50, 22.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50
Newmarket: 1st 21.50, 2nd 21.50, 3rd 21.50

Wincanton

[illegible]


4.40: 1, The Thunderer (C)
Again (S-T); 3, Kate The S
NR: Big Spel.

2.30-3.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Vented Gey (40-5); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	06-01 Little
3.00-3.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	11 Money
3.30-4.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	Paradise
4.00-4.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	Evens Strangle
4.30-5.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	\$1.15 JED-P
5.00-5.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	11 Money
5.30-6.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	1044 Spectator
6.00-6.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	3.30-3.45
6.30-7.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	3.45-4.00
7.00-7.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	4.00-4.15
7.30-8.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	4.15-4.30
8.00-8.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	4.30-4.45
8.30-9.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	4.45-5.00
9.00-9.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	5.00-5.15
9.30-10.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	5.15-5.30
10.00-10.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	5.30-5.45
10.30-11.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	5.45-6.00
11.00-11.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	6.00-6.15
11.30-12.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	6.15-6.30
12.00-12.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	6.30-6.45
12.30-1.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	6.45-7.00
1.00-1.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	7.00-7.15
1.30-2.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	7.15-7.30
2.00-2.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	7.30-7.45
2.30-3.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	7.45-8.00
3.00-3.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	8.00-8.15
3.30-4.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	8.15-8.30
4.00-4.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	8.30-8.45
4.30-5.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	8.45-9.00
5.00-5.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	9.00-9.15
5.30-6.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	9.15-9.30
6.00-6.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	9.30-9.45
6.30-7.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	9.45-10.00
7.00-7.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	10.00-10.15
7.30-8.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	10.15-10.30
8.00-8.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	10.30-10.45
8.30-9.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	10.45-11.00
9.00-9.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	11.00-11.15
9.30-10.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	11.15-11.30
10.00-10.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	11.30-11.45
10.30-11.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	11.45-12.00
11.00-11.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	12.00-12.15
11.30-12.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	12.15-12.30
12.00-12.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	12.30-12.45
12.30-1.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	12.45-1.00
1.00-1.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	1.00-1.15
1.30-2.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	1.15-1.30
2.00-2.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	1.30-1.45
2.30-3.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	1.45-2.00
3.00-3.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	2.00-2.15
3.30-4.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	2.15-2.30
4.00-4.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	2.30-2.45
4.30-5.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	2.45-3.00
5.00-5.30	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	3.00-3.15
5.30-6.00	Dead Nipples (30-1); Tayk Work (5-12); Tayk Work (5-12); 12 ran.	3.15-3.30

ENTERTAINMENTS

ENTERTAINMENTS

\$50 ON SIX/SATURDAY



**SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE
ENGLISH BACH FESTIVAL**
Director: Line Lalande OBE.

RAMEAU
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**4 & 5 OCTOBER
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COMEDIE-LYRIQUE 1745


**5 & 6 OCTOBER
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A LES FETES DE POLYNESIE
OPERA BALLET 1745

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 10:30 Lower Box \$10.00
 10:30 Lower Circle \$5.00

VICTOR HOCCHHAUSER presents
AT THE BARBICAN
WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER AT 7.45




TCHAIKOVSKY

Sleeping Beauty Waltz. Swan Lake Suite
 Violin Concerto in D. Nutcracker Suite
 SYMPHONY '1812'. Cannon & Mortar Effects.

NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL BAND OF THE COLDESTREAM GUARDS
 Conductor KENNETH ALWYN, LYDIA MOROSOVITCH Solo.

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER at 7.45
ANTHONY HOPKINS
 Introducing & Conducting...



ROSSINI:
 La Cenerentola
 MAYBEL
 OLGA
 MONTENEGRO

Or.
 The Barber of Seville
 Flauti Concerto No. 2
 Bolero
 Paganini & Chaconne (March No. 1)
 Bolero
 Bolero (Dance) (Piano Solo)

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Special Programming: NCP-Hollywood 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853,

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Jenkin rules out ending of rates

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, who faces criticism at the Conservative Party conference over the Government's alleged failure to honour its commitment to reform the rating system, has said that the Government has decided that the rates should be retained for the foreseeable future.

Making clear his readiness to face his critics head-on, Mr Jenkin said that the Government would put the rating system back on a stable footing with its proposals to curb high-spending authorities, with a back-up power to cap the rates, to abolish the GLC and the metropolitan authorities, and to require councils to consult business representatives before fixing their rates.

The general tenor of resolutions tabled by Conservative associations for the conference is that those proposals are inadequate and that a more drastic reform is necessary.

But Mr Jenkin, in a speech to the Rating and Valuation Association's conference in Southampton, said that the grievances underlying the hostility to the rates must be redressed. Rates would be retained.

He then set out the Government's objections to the various alternatives proposed:

1 A poll tax would require significant exemptions and be hard to enforce. It would need the compulsory registration of all who were liable to pay.

2 A sales tax would be complex and the yield difficult to predict. It could distort patterns of shopping and impose new burdens on retailers.

3 A local income tax would be expensive to run and increase the marginal rate of income tax.

"We would still face much of the same problems over excess spending. Central government would still have to help authorities with low resources and high expenditure needs. Some form of equalization scheme would still be required."

Recipe for reform, page 8



Underground palace: The magnificent Victorian subway to the former high-level railway station at Crystal Palace, in London, will be open today, thanks to the Norwood Society and Crystal Palace Foundation.

The subway was used until November, 1936, when the Crystal Palace burnt down. Edward Barry, the architect, designed the vaulted chamber in Byzantine style. It remains a testimony to Victorian building skill, the octagonal pillars standing up to the piling of overhead traffic.

The elaborate ceiling is made of red and cream brickwork so intricate that cathedral bricklayers were recruited from Italy.

The "Subway Superday" will have stalls, exhibitions and film shows Photograph: Peter Trivelp

Falklands troops hit by shell

An inquiry started yesterday in the Falkland Islands into the wounding of four soldiers, two seriously, by a shell during joint infantry and artillery exercises.

Ministry of Defence officials in Port Stanley said last night it was not known whether the shell fell short or the soldiers were ahead of their correct position.

The two seriously injured men are Sergeant Stephen Kelly, of the 1st Battalion, King's Own Border Regiment, who suffered blast injuries to the thigh and shrapnel wounds in the hand, and Private Anthony Brown, of the 2nd Battalion, Light Infantry, who broke a leg and suffered shrapnel wounds.

Almost 5,000 health jobs to go

Continued from page 1
view health authorities met with scepticism.

The cuts were condemned as "shameful" by Mr David Williams, general secretary of the Confederation of Health Service Employees, who said Mr Fowler's claim that they were not new cuts was "nonsense".

Mr Rodney Bickers, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, said Mr Fowler's announcement that manpower targets are to be a regular part of health service planning was "doubletalk for more cuts to come".

The Royal College of Nursing accused Mr Fowler of "juggling the figures" and said the real job loss total was much higher than unfilled posts which had been lost were considered.

The three regions whose

final figures were announced today were North, Western, and North-east Thames, whose below the lower limit ministers proposed; the West Midlands, which agreed to reduce 140 jobs, instead of the 790 sought; and North-east Thames, whose reduction of 1,200 is the largest of any region.

Manpower reductions			
Region	Staff numbers March 31, 1983	Change sought	Change achieved
Northern	54,100	-556	-186
Yorkshire	61,855	-220/380	-284
Trent	74,009	+110	+820
East Anglia	29,881	+119	+374
NW Thames	59,526	-1,536	-1,000
NE Thames	73,749	-1,416	-1,200
SE Thames	66,384	-1,280	-1,081
SW Thames	50,139	-925	-730
Wessex	43,875	+50/-51	+40
Oxford	34,047	-270	+229
South Western	53,047	-180/512	-124
W Midlands	84,050	-790	-140
Mersey	44,844	-506	-506
N Western	76,160	-572/762	-562
Special Health Authorities/Boards of Governors	11,907		-207
Total	817,633		-4,837

Letter from Brunei Chukka or two to win a sultan's ear

From a Special Correspondent

With the call to prayer echoing across waters speckled with the reflected lights of houses, rising on stilts out of the river, the setting of the British High Commissioner's house in Bandar Seri Begawan is close to perfection. For the past few weeks it has been the focal point for a modest revival in the fortunes of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, with the agreements with Brunei, buffeted remorselessly since the Falklands War and the departure of Lord Carrington as Foreign Secretary, an event which many an FCO man believes is the root cause of the hard diplomatic row which Britain now has to hoe.

Even at the height of empire it is doubtful that BSB, as the Brunei capital is known locally, was exactly a hotbed of diplomatic activity. It was more a post, perhaps, for those in need of a sinecure or the lesser lights in the Foreign Office. But dealing with potentates can be an uncomfortable business, as recent high commissioners in Brunei have been reminded.

After the abrupt departure of the previous incumbent, Mr Francis Cornish has now been installed as High Commissioner. Mr Cornish, tall and as energetic and enthusiastic as though he had just become Ambassador to Washington, could scarcely be better qualified for the job of winning the ear of Sultan Sir Hassanal Bolkiah.

A former assistant private secretary to the Prince of Wales, Mr Cornish, like the Sultan, went to Sandhurst and has a liking for polo, which is the ruler's passion.

It was no surprise, therefore, when Buckingham Palace announced that Prince Charles would represent the Queen at Brunei's independence celebrations on February 23.

That celebration is intended for foreign guests while the December 31 affair will be a purely national one.

No doubt there will be a chukka or two of polo played during the festivities, many of

the Sultan's friends are either polo players or enthusiasts of the sport.

Indeed the Sultan's enthusiasm is such that it is not unknown for one of the King's 737s of the national airline, Royal Brunei, to be commandeered to fly a batch of them off to a tournament. But they are used to luxury and it is said that their quarters adjacent to the new palace will be air-conditioned.

Such dazzling contrasts to life in the more mundane parts of South-East Asia are fairly common in Brunei, which has a car population of some 80,000 vehicles for a human population of 190 thousand.

While the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment gets familiar with the electronics of the British Rapier anti-aircraft missile system, which can aim and fire the weapon system even at night, residents of Bandar Seri Begawan are only now beginning to enjoy the benefits of traffic lights. Recent mornings in the capital have seen a group of intense young Bruneians carefully timing their duration wing watches.

Assisting the men with the stopwatches were young Britons, but in other instances Brunei has been going through the ritual of showing how little it needs its former colonial masters.

But there is still the Churchill Museum, a familiar statue of the hunched figure of Sir Winston in front of it. Inside his career is traced in dioramas. It is a story that must leave modern young Bruneians a little bit nonplussed - not least because the inscription at the foot of the statue deals with blood, toil, tears and sweat.

This is a strange exhortation in a state with £8 billion in foreign reserves which could most probably stop its oil and natural gas production tomorrow and live off the interest on its investments for the foreseeable future.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,243

Across: 1. SPARKING, 2. SLANDER, 3. LITIGANT, 4. GARDEN, 5. TROOP, 6. HONOUR, 7. TROOP, 8. TROOP, 9. TROOP, 10. TROOP, 11. TROOP, 12. TROOP, 13. TROOP, 14. TROOP, 15. TROOP, 16. TROOP, 17. TROOP, 18. TROOP, 19. TROOP, 20. TROOP, 21. TROOP, 22. TROOP, 23. TROOP, 24. TROOP, 25. TROOP, 26. TROOP, 27. TROOP, 28. TROOP, 29. TROOP, 30. TROOP, 31. TROOP, 32. TROOP, 33. TROOP, 34. TROOP, 35. TROOP, 36. TROOP, 37. TROOP, 38. TROOP, 39. TROOP, 40. TROOP, 41. TROOP, 42. TROOP, 43. TROOP, 44. TROOP, 45. TROOP, 46. TROOP, 47. TROOP, 48. TROOP, 49. TROOP, 50. TROOP, 51. TROOP, 52. TROOP, 53. TROOP, 54. TROOP, 55. TROOP, 56. TROOP, 57. TROOP, 58. TROOP, 59. TROOP, 60. TROOP, 61. TROOP, 62. TROOP, 63. TROOP, 64. TROOP, 65. TROOP, 66. TROOP, 67. TROOP, 68. TROOP, 69. TROOP, 70. TROOP, 71. TROOP, 72. TROOP, 73. TROOP, 74. TROOP, 75. TROOP, 76. TROOP, 77. TROOP, 78. TROOP, 79. TROOP, 80. TROOP, 81. TROOP, 82. TROOP, 83. TROOP, 84. TROOP, 85. TROOP, 86. TROOP, 87. TROOP, 88. TROOP, 89. TROOP, 90. 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